

NHamp
352.07
CS2
1997.



**CHESTER
NEW HAMPSHIRE
ANNUAL REPORTS**

**for the Fiscal Year Ending
June 30, 1997**

**Town Elections: May 12, 1998
Town Meeting: May 13, 1998**

This Town Report cover is printed on environmentally friendly,
50% Recycled/25% Post-Consumer Waste paper

Table of Contents

Auditor's Report	33
Budget	Colored Section
Budget Advisory Committee Report	34
Building Inspector's Report	46
CTV-51	65
Comparative Statement of Appropriations	16
Conservation Commission Report	56
Detailed Statement of Payments	19
Detailed Statement of Receipts	18
Doloff Farm Committee	66
Educational Trust Report	68
Exeter River Watershed	59
Financial Report	12
Fire Department Report	52
Forest Fire Report	54
Highway Department Report	48
Highway Safety Committee Report	49
Library Report	40
Planning Board Report	43
Police Department Report	50
Recreation Commission Report	61
Recycling Solid Waste Committee Report	63
Representative's Report	38
Selectmen's Report	6
Southern NH Planning Committee Report	55
Statement of Appropriations	8
Summary of Inventory Valuation	10
Tax Collector's Report	31
Tax Rate Computation	11
Town Clerk's Report/Tax Lien Accounts	30
Town Fair Report	60
Town Officers	2
Trust Fund Report	36
Warrant	Colored Section
Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust Fund	35
Zoning Board of Adjustment Report	39

Town Officers

Moderator

Michael Scott - 1998

Assistant Moderator - Walt St. Clair

Representative to the General Court

Jon Beaulieu - 1998

Selectmen

Andrew L. Hadik - 1998 Colin M. Costine - 1999 Charlotte A. Lister - 2000

Administrative Assistant

Margaret M. Neveu

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Barbara L. Gagnon - 1999

Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Shayne Marshall

Treasurer

Pat Sevener - 1999

Deputy Treasurer

Deborah Costine

Cynthia Tunberg

Fire Chief

Stephen Tunberg

Road Agent

Clarence Ware

Chief of Police

Alfred Wagner

Supervisors of the Checklist

Diane Dupont - 1998

Janice Jeans - 1999

Virginia Beaulieu - 2000

Trustees of Trust Funds

Joseph O'Brien - 2000

Library Trustees

Mary Ann Marchi, Chairman - 1998

Fran Bechtold - 1998

Linda Heuer - 2000

Dorothy Avery - 1999

Debbie Munson - 1999

Great Hill Cemetery Trustees

Wayne Towle - 2001

Steven Childs - 1999

Ernest Edwards - 1998

George Noyes - 2000

Russ Ouwerkerk - 2001

Village Cemetery Trustees

David Hoffman - 1999

Truman Britton - 2000

Ann Parnell - 1998

Wilcomb-Townsend Home Fund Trustees

Cynthia Tunberg - 1998

Catherine Fogg - 2000

Tina Butterfield - 1999

Isabelle Rand - 2002

Appointments

Budget Advisory Committee

Paul Kretschmer

Bruce Baker

Donald Parnell

Building Inspector/Zoning Officer

David Jore

Environmental Compliance Officer

Brad Wamsley

Cable Committee

Ron Bath (Moved)

Lennie Stein

Richard Godfrey

Margery Godfrey

Hilary Hall

Dave Hardy

Eileen Hardy

Civil Defense/Emergency Management

Scott St. Clair, Director

John Cadieux, Deputy Director

William Boynton, Deputy Director

Scott Rice - Communications Officer

Conservation Commission

Brad Wamsley, Chairman - 1999

Gladys Nicoll, Treasurer - 1998

Gregory Lowell, Sec. - 2000

David Hardy - 1998

Maureen Lein - 1999

Elizabeth Hayward, Alternate - 1998

Camilla Lockwood, Planning Board Rep.

Andrew Hadik, Selectmen's Rep.

Edward's Mill Project Coordinator

Robert Pike

Exeter River Watershed Reps.

Al Hamel
Cam Lockwood

Forest Fire Warden

Stephen Tunberg

Deputy Fire Wardens

Steven W. Child	Kevin C. Scott	Scott St. Clair
Bruce McLaughlin	William L. Boynton	Arthur Dolloff
John T. Coleman	Ernest Edwards (Honorary Member)	Jack Cadieux

Health Officer

Darrell Quinn

Historic District Commission Committee

Colin Costine, Sel's Rep.	Anya Bent	Ann Powers
Louise Nutt		Diane Methot - Alternate

Library

Judith Balk - Library Director

Recreation Committee

Greg Lowell - Chairman	Debbie Burke	Linda Royce
Bob Henderson		Charlie Henderson

Planning Board

Scott Rice - Chairman - 1999	Richard Snyder - Vice Chairman - 2000
Cynthia J. Robinson - Administrative Assistant - 1999	
Evan Sederquest - 2000	Camilla Lockwood - 1998
Carl Morin - Alternate - 1998	Stephen Landau - 1998
	William Gregsak - Alternate - 1998
	Andrew Hadik - Ex- Officio

Recycling/Solid Waste Committee

Anne Pardo, Chairperson/Sec.	Paul Potter, Vice-Chairperson
Charles Myette	Lloyd Healey
	J. R. Stephens
	Bonnie Healey

Secretary/Police Department

Vaughn McGillen

Secretary/Bookkeeper - Selectmen's Office

Ruth Kaste Janet Boyden

Spring Hill Farm Trustees

Miss Muriel Church

Colin Costine

Brad Wamsley

Wayne Towle

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

Andrew L. Hadik - 1999 Albert Hamel - 2000

Welfare Administrator

Margaret M. Neveu

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Billie Maloney - Chairperson - 1999 David Hill - Vice-Chairman - 2000

Cynthia Herman - 1999 Bob Grimm - 1998 Janice Jeans - 1998

Steph Landau - Planning Board Rep. Janet Boyden, Alternate/Sec. - 1998

Honorary Appointments

Inspector of Grist Mills, Factories, and Sawmills

Ernest S. Edwards

Sealer of Weights and Measure

Robert Dolloff Robert Buelte

Weigher of Grain and Measurer of Hay and Provender

Wayne Towle Robert Healey

Town Historian

Evelyn Noyes

Surveyor of Wood, Bark, and Lumber

Leroy Noyes

Keeper of the Town Pound

George Chaperon

Gertrude Nichols

Keeper of the Jacob Chase Horse Block

Robert Nicoll

Consulting Engineer and Maintenance Supervisor

of the Town Chronometer

Scott St. Clair

Annual Report of the Board of Selectmen

The past year has been very busy and productive for the Board of Selectmen, and Mother Nature was much kinder than she was over the previous two years. Thankfully we do not have any weather-related disaster expenditures to report this time.

The most noteworthy event that occurred was the recent passage of funding for a new elementary school. This project required significant attention and input by Colin and Charlotte, both of whom worked hard with the "Concerned Citizens" and the School Board to generate an acceptable proposal to present to the voters. The significance of the accomplishment is not only noteworthy in the building of a new school, but also that use of the old school will solve the Town's municipal space needs for several decades. The Board is unanimous in it's opinion that this is the most cost-effective solution we could have hoped for. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jamie Towle and Dennis Glynn and all the other members of "Concerned Citizens" who came together to work on solving the problem.

Other noteworthy events were the construction of the new municipal recycling & waste transfer station and the closure of the Town landfill. These projects required significant attention and input by Andrew and the Recycling & Solid Waste Committee, who worked hard with Town engineers, DES officials, and contractors to bring the two projects to substantial completion.

The projects were not without their problems. First the bids for transfer station site work came in far higher than the cost estimates obtained from contractors who had expressed interest in bidding on the project. Preparation of the site was quite complex due to blasting of ledge, removal of the six septage lagoons, and relocation of large amounts of fill in order to create a usable site. The solution to this problem was to omit of one of the two planned compactor bays, in order to stay within the budget. The next problem occurred when the bids for the landfill closure came in higher on a cost-per-acre basis than expected. Fortunately this budget problem was offset when test pits proved the subterranean landfill footprint was 16% smaller than originally mapped on the surface.

Except for a few other minor issues, both projects went well and were completed on schedule and under budget. There was even enough money for the recycling building and paving of the access road which should be completed by the end of spring. The first round of sampling already has shown a slight decrease in groundwater contaminant levels, and we are confident this trend will continue. The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank the Recycling & Solid Waste Committee for all their hard work and involvement in these two projects over the past four years.

The total cost of both projects will be approximately \$1,062,000, which is

\$45,000 under the original \$1,107,000 budget. We have applied for Des's landfill closure grant, and expect to be reimbursed for 20% of the principal and interest of \$751,000 in costs related to the landfill closure. We anticipate this will result in the Town's share to be equivalent to making bond payments (2.89% interest rate) on only about \$912,000.

A significant amount of the Board's time was taken up by meetings with legal counsel and attending or testifying in various court cases. There has been a significant increase in legal activities lately. Most of this activity is due to zoning enforcement against prohibited land use activities, challenges of Planning and Zoning board decisions related to land development, or taxation issues over public utilities. The increase in legal expenses will be reflected accordingly in the next budget.

The Board was also concerned with a number of other issues that will be put before the voters in a series of warrant articles. The first is that the NH DRA has ordered a Town-wide reassessment in response to a petition by residents. The order is justified principally because its been 20 years since the last one was completed. The reassessment must be completed by April 1, 1999.

Another issue is the Dolloff Farm proposal. This article is to purchase the development rights to the dairy farm, and is considered by many to be an excellent proactive measure to help slow the growth of property taxes and also preserve the rural character of the Town. The Board urges citizens to become fully informed on this issue.

Renovations of the Town Hall were also continued. The roof was repaired and elements of the heating system were upgraded. Additional video equipment was installed so other meetings such as Planning and Zoning board meetings may also be aired on cable Channel 51. The largest remaining renovation now being planned is the painting of the exterior.

In closing we include our usual request that if you are concerned about preserving the character of our nice town and have some time to donate, please consider serving on a board or committee. Greater participation eases the burden on others (some of whom have been volunteering for many years now), increases efficiency, and certainly strengthens the local democratic processes which we are all so fortunate to enjoy.

The Board of Selectmen
Andrew L. Hadik, Chairman
Colin M. Costine
Charlotte . Lister

Statement of Appropriations - 1997/1998

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive	37,840	TC
Election, Registration & Vital Statistic	26,225	TC
Financial Administration	81,280	TC
Revaluation of Property	2,500	TC
Legal Expense	25,000	TC
Personnel Administration	26,000	TC
Planning and Zoning	31,900	
General Government	40,420	
Cemeteries	11,975	TC
Insurance	55,100	TC
Advertising and Regional Associations	2,000	

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police	207,349	
Ambulance	25,000	
Fire & Forest Fires	37,000	
Bldg. Inspection	24,375	
Emergency Management	2,000	
Other Public Safety (including Communications)	3,500	

HIGHWAYS AND STREET

Highways and Streets	185,900	
Street Lighting	2,300	TC

SANITATION

Solid Waste Disposal	133,020	
Solid Waste Clean-up	25,000	

HEALTH

Pest Control ACO	2,570	
Health Agencies and Hospitals & Administration	16,144	

WELFARE

Direct Assistance	9,050	
Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	4,097	

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation	10,510	
Library	49,900	
Patriotic Purposes	150	
Other Culture and Recreation	12,150	

CONSERVATION

Other Conservation - Conservation Commission 1,300

DEBT SERVICE

Princ-Long Term Bonds & Notes (Fire Truck) 10,000 TC
Interest on TAN 4,500 TC
Other Debt Service 1,880 TC

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Mach, Veh, Equip (Police Cruiser) 25,000
Improvements Other Than Buildings 36,010

OTHER

A/P Candia Road 25,000

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS \$1,193,945

(*From MS-2)

SOURCES OF REVENUE

TAXES

Yield Taxes 5,000
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes 28,000

LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES

Motor Vehicle Permit Fees/Titles 301,000
Building Permits/Driveway Permits 17,500
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees (Dog Licenses/Town Fees) 5,500

FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

COPS Grant 22,000

FROM STATE

Shared Revenue 16,043
Meals & Rooms Tax Dist 33,243
Highway Block Grant 62,900

CHARGES FOR SERVICES

Income from Departments 12,000

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES

Interest on Investments 40,000
Misc - Other/Rent 48,000

INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN

From Capital Reserve 11,000
Trust and Agency Funds 2,000

TOTAL SOURCE OF REVENUES \$604,186

(*From Revised MS-4)

Summary Inventory of Valuation 1997

Value of Land Only	Acres	Valuation
Current Use	9,363.40	\$420,354
Utility Acres Only	166.44	
Residential	6,404.70	23,591,700
Commercial/Industrial	34.01	152,950
Total Taxable Land	15,968.55	\$24,165,004

Total Exempt & Non- Taxable (\$726,550)

Value of Buildings Only

Residential	52,782,100
Manufactured Housing	267,350
Commercial/Industrial	541,300
Total Taxable Buildings	\$53,590,750

Total Exempt & Non-Taxable (\$1,677,900)

Public Utilities

Electric	4,834,282
Telephone	451,100
Total Utilities	\$5,285,382

Valuation Before Exemptions **\$83,041,136**

Exemptions

Blind Exemption	15,000
Elderly Exemption	335,000
Physically Handicapped	6,428
Solar/Windpower Exempt	11,605
School Din/Dorm/Kitchen Exemp	150,000
Current Use Credit % Properties	34,450

Total Dollar Amount of Exemption **\$552,483**

Net Valuation on Which Tax Rate is Computed **\$ 82,488,653**

1997 Tax Rate Calculation

	Tax Rate
Appropriations	1,193,945
Less: Revenues	786,186
Less: Shared Revenues	1,860
Add: Overlay	50,270
Add: War Service Credits	23,050
Approved Town/City Tax Effort	\$479,219
	\$5.81
Due to Local School	3,812,700
Due to Regional Schools	0
Less: Shared Revenue	44,687
Approved School Tax Effort	\$3,768,013
	\$45.68
Due to County	209,226
Less: Shared Revenues	3,720
Net County Tax Effort	\$205,506
	\$2.49
COMBINED TAX RATE	\$53.98

Commitment Analysis

Total Property Taxes Assessed	\$4,452,738
Less: War Service Credit	(23,050)
Add: Village District Commitment	0
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$4,429,688

Proof of Rate

Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment
\$82,488,653	\$53.98	\$4,452,738

1997 Bond Requirement

Treasurer	99,000
Town Clerk	83,000
Tx Collector	36,000
Trustees of Trust Fund	143,000

Financial Report For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1997

REVENUES

Revenue from Taxes	
Property Taxes	\$4,058,997
Land Use Change Taxes	43,887
Yield Taxes	6,468
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	51,916
Total	4,161,268
Licenses and Permits	
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	345,600
Building Permits	23,949
Other Licenses, Permits and Fees	5,269
Total	374,818
Revenue from Federal Government	
Cops Fast Grant	17,930
Emergency Management Assistance	62,758
Total	80,688
Revenue from State of New Hampshire	
Shared Revenue Block Grant	87,679
Highway Block Grant	58,924
Other	119
Total	146,722
Revenue from Charges of Services	
Income from Department	10,585
Revenue from Miscellaneous Sources	
Interest of Investments	58,084
Rents of Property	11,395
Fines & Forfeits	605
Miscellaneous Sources not Otherwise Classified	43,591
Total	113,675
Interfund Operating Transfers In	
Transfers from Trust and Agency Funds	1,348
Total Revenues from All Source	4,889,104
Fund Balance	617,767
Grand Total	\$5,506,871

EXPENDITURES

General Government

Executive	\$28,977
Election, Registration and Vital Statistics	20,876
Financial Administration	74,638
Revaluation of Property	1,352
Legal Expenses	16,918
Personnel Administration	25,673
Planning and Zoning	14,963
General Government Building	28,423
Cemeteries	14,669
Insurance not Otherwise Allocated	46,176
Advertising and Regional Association	1,826
Other General Government	18,311
Total	\$292,802

Public Safety

Police	195,162
Ambulance	25,000
Fire	34,805
Building Inspection	23,888
Emergency Management	69
Other Public Safety	3,500
Total	\$282,424

Highways and Streets

Highways and Streets	197,916
Street Lighting	2,335
Other Highway, Street, and Bridges	62,758
Total	\$263,009

Sanitation

Solid Waste Disposal	62,007
Other Sanitation	42,031
Total	\$104,038

Health

Pest Control	2,249
Health Agencies and Hospitals	15,894
Total	\$18,143

Welfare

Direct Assistance	1,283
Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	2,663
Total	\$3,946

Culture and Recreation	
Parks and Recreation	9,062
Patriotic Purposes	150
Other Culture and Recreation	<u>11,528</u>
Total	\$20,740
Conservation	
Other Conservation	400
Total	\$400
Debt Service	
Principal Long Term Bonds & Notes	10,000
Interest on Long Term Bonds & Notes	<u>2,680</u>
Total	\$12,680
Capital Outlay	
Machinery, Vehicles and Equipment	10,287
Improvements other than Buildings	<u>10,660</u>
Total	\$20,947
Interfund Operating Transfers Out	
Transfers to Special Revenue Funds	46,900
Transfer to Capital Reserve Funds	<u>11,000</u>
Total	\$57,900
Payments to Other Governments	
Taxes Paid to County	205,049
Taxes Paid to School Districts	<u>3,391,928</u>
Total	\$3,596,977
Total Expenditures	\$4,674,006
Fund Balances (End of Year)	\$832,865
Grand Totals	\$5,506,871

Balance Sheet
June 30, 1997

ASSETS

	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>End of Year</u>
Current Assets		
Cash and Equivalents	\$1,773,573	\$2,285,902
Taxes Receivable	412,477	441,731
Tax Liens Receivable	139,820	151,999
Due From Other Funds	2,024	1,348
Other Current Assets	196,400	56,400
Total Assets	\$ 2,524,294	\$ 2,937,380

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>End of Year</u>
Current Liabilities		
Warrants and Account Payable	\$903	
Due to Other Funds	\$11,000	22,000
Deferred Revenue	1,894,624	2,082,515
Total Liabilities	\$1,906,527	\$2,104,515
Fund Equity		
Reserve for Encumbrances	\$39,838	\$17,860
Unreserved Fund Balances	577,929	815,005
Total Fund Equity	\$617,767	\$832,865
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$2,524,294	\$2,937,380

Note: Per Audit - Modified Accrual

**Comparative Statement
of Appropriations
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1997**

<u>Title of Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Unexpended Balance</u>	<u>Overdrafts</u>
Executive Office	26,790	TC 28,977		2,187
Election and Registration	19,395	TC 20,876		1,481
Financial Administration	76,420	TC 74,638	1,782	
Revaluation of Property	2,500	TC 1,352	1,148	
Judicial and Legal	21,000	TC 16,918	4,082	
Personnel Administration	25,100	TC 25,673		573
Planning and Zoning	25,300	14,963	10,337	
General Government Buildings	29,800	28,423	1,377	
Village Cemeteries	10,400	TC 14,669		4,269
Insurance	51,000	TC 46,176	4,824	
Regional Association	2,000	1,826	174	
Other General Govt.			18,311	18,311
Police Department	192,805	195,162		2,357
Ambulance	25,000	25,000		
Fire Department and FF	35,000	34,805	195	
Building Inspection	22,050	23,888		1,838
Emergency Management	2,000	69	1,931	
Other Public Safety	3,500	3,500		
Highways and Streets	185,900	197,916		12,016
Other Highway		62,758		62,758
Street Lighting	2,200	TC 2,335		135
Deficit for Highway	25,000		25,000	
Waste Disposal/Collection	70,250	62,007	8,243	
Other Sanitation	35,750	42,031		6,281
Pest Control	2,570	2,249	321	
Other Health	15,994	15,894	100	
Welfare	9,000	1,283	7,717	
Welfare- Intergov. Payments	2,753	2,663	90	
Parks and Recreation	9,055	9,062		7
Library	46,900	46,900		
Patriotic Purposes	250	150	100	
Other Culture and Recreation	11,660	11,528	132	
Conservation Commission	400	400		
Princ-Long Term Bonds & Notes	10,000	TC 10,000		

Int-Long Term Bonds & Notes	2,680	TC	2,680	
Interest Tax Anticipation Notes	4,500	TC		4,500
Capital Reserve - Police Cruiser	11,000		11,000	
Capital Outlay	10,290		10,287	3
Transfer/Landfill	1,107,000			1,107,000
Improvem. other than Bldgs			10,660	10,660
Total	\$2,133,212	\$1,077,029	\$1,179,056	\$122,873

Unexpended Balance of Appropriation = \$1,056,183

Detailed Statement of Receipts 96/97

(Note: Adjusted at Audit - see Financial Report)

PROPERTY TAX REVENUE - 0

Tax Revenue Curr Year	4,242,115.62
Tax Rev - Prior Year	135,646.45
Tax Overpayments	<u>32,936.54</u>
	\$4,410,698.61

LAND USE CHANGE TAXES - \$30,000

Land Use Taxes Current Year	32,154.40
Land Use Taxes Previous Years	<u>2,550.00</u>
	\$34,704.40

YIELD TAXES - \$6,000

Yield Taxes Current Year	4,476.04
Yield Taxes Prior Year	<u>1,757.83</u>
	\$6,233.87

PENALTIES AND INTEREST - \$40,000

Int/Costs on Prop Taxes	51,435.75
Int on Land Use Change Tax	242.74
Int on Late Yield Taxes	<u>92.03</u>
	\$51,770.52

MOTOR VEHICLE PERMIT FEES - \$255,000

Vehicle Permit Fees	344,322.00
Vehicle Title Fees	<u>1,278.00</u>
	\$345,600.00

BUILDING PERMITS - \$17,000

Building Permits	21,249.05
Driveway Permits	<u>2,700.00</u>
	\$23,949.05

OTHER LICENSES, PERMITS, AND FEES - \$5,000

Dog Licenses	3,190.00
Dog License Fines	132.00
Pistol Permits	<u>210.00</u>
Other Licenses & Permits	<u>4,046.74</u>
	\$7,578.74

FEDERAL REVENUE - \$28,000

Fed Govt - Cops Grant	17,930.00
	<hr/> <u>\$17,930.00</u>

SHARED REV BLOCK GRANT - \$39,416

Shared Rev Block Grant	63,665.59
	<hr/> <u>\$63,665.59</u>

REVENUE FROM THE STATE - \$53,422

Highway Block Grant	58,924.15
	<hr/> <u>\$58,924.15</u>

OTHER STATE REVENUE - \$0

State of NH - Forest Fire Training Reimb	119.42
State Rooms and Meals Tax	<hr/> 24,013.16
	<hr/> <u>\$24,132.58</u>

REVENUE FROM CHARGES FOR SERVICES - \$15,000

Insurance Report Fees	915.00
Police Special Duty Fees	2,185.50
State Witness Fees	1,066.67
Planning Board Fees	1,185.00
Zoning Board Fees	561.00
Landfill Fees Received	<hr/> 4,671.36
	<hr/> <u>\$10,584.53</u>

REV FROM MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES - \$40,000

Rents From Short-Term Use	562.00
Rent From Post Office	10,833.42
Court Fines	605.00
Miscellaneous Revenue - Other/Recreation	42,957.93
Misc Revenue - Copies	201.81
Current Use App Fees	<hr/> 73.92
	<hr/> <u>\$55,234.08</u>

INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS - \$35,000

Interest on Investments	58,084.03
	<hr/> <u>\$58,084.03</u>

LIBRARY REIMBURSEMENTS - \$0

Library Reimbursements	33,860.38
	<hr/> <u>\$33,860.38</u>

INTERFUND TRANSFER - \$1,600

Interfund Transfer - Trust	2,224.72
	<hr/> <u>\$2,224.72</u>

PROC. FROM BONDS - \$1,107,000

Landfill	0.00
	<hr/> 0.00

Subtotal

Budget Total	<u>\$5,205,175.25</u>
--------------	-----------------------

OTHER

Interest on Checking	58,084.00
Tax Anticipation Notes	<hr/> 0.00

Total Receipts	\$5,263,259.25
-----------------------	-----------------------

Note: These figures have been adjusted by the Auditor - see MS-5 (Financial Report which is accrued)

Detailed Statement of Payments

1996/1997

(Adjusted at Audit - see Financial Report)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE - \$26,790

Selectmen Salaries	\$ 5,880.02
Selectmen Telephone	796.32
Selectmen Printing	50.00
Selectmen Dues & Subscriptions	303.10
Selectmen Advertising	1,286.89
Selectmen's Misc Expenses	59.08
Admin Asst Salary	15,905.95
Admin Temporary Positions	485.00
Admin Postage	986.99
Admin Mileage	103.48
Printing Town Report	2,530.00
Admin Books & Periodicals	590.22
	<hr/>
	\$28,977.05

ELECTION & REGISTRATION - \$19,395

Dep Town Clerk Sal & Wage	\$ 2,120.27
Town Clerk Sal & Wages	12,444.27
Town Clerk Telephone	335.34
Town Clerk Off Equip Repair	349.00
Town Clerk Dues Subs & Seminar	145.00
Town Clerk Office Supplies	470.84
Town Clerk Postage	239.14
Town Clerk Mileage	38.72
Town Clerk Books & Periodicals	227.00
Advertising	16.47
Voters Ballot Clerks	450.00
Voters Supervisor's Salary	1,558.76
Voter's Printing	791.49
Voter Meals	886.76
Town Meeting Minutes Salary	205.00
Moderator's Salary	600.00
	<hr/>
	\$20,878.06

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION - \$76,420

Acctg Salaries and Wages	\$18,580.30
Acctg Temporary Positions	5,372.80
Acctg Computer Support	1,613.60
Acct Bank Services	674.13
Acctg Telephone	579.40

Acctg Other Prof Services	1,239.00
Acctg Office Equip Maint	440.53
Acctg Copier Contract	842.36
Dues & Seminars	240.00
Acctg Office Supplies	3,370.68
Acctg Postage	873.00
Acctg Mileage	184.56
Acctg Recording Charges	747.24
Acctg Books & Periodicals	15.00
Acctg Off Equip/Maint	599.99
Auditing	6,534.00
Acctng Computer Maint Cont	1,125.00
Assessing	14,191.01
Dep Tax Coll Sal & Wages	1,539.72
Tax Collector Salaries	12,444.27
Tax Collector General Sup	351.37
Tax Collector Postage	1,277.67
Treasurer's Salary	1,700.00
Misc	175.36
	<hr/>
	\$74,710.99

REVALUATION OF PROPERTY - \$2,500

Rev Assessing	\$1,352.42
	<hr/>
	\$1,352.42

JUDICIAL & LEGAL EXPENSE - \$21,000

Legal Services	\$17,574.93
	<hr/>
	\$17,574.93

PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION - \$25,100

Fica/Town Share	\$18,512.54
Medi/Town Share	4,329.57
	<hr/>
	\$22,842.11

PLANNING & ZONING - \$15,300

Adm Assist Salaries & Wages	7,895.00
Telephone	601.13
Contracted Services	822.51
Office Equip Maint	200.00
Printing	1,886.69
Dues Subs & Seminars	35.00
Office Supplies	92.86
Postage	1,053.41
Recording Charges	187.00
Books & Periodicals	185.50
Advertising	593.67
Misc.	152.98

Office Equipment	50.00
Clerical	1,235.00
	<hr/>
IMPACT FEE & GROWTH ORDIN. #14 - \$10,000	0.00
	<hr/>
GENERAL GOV'T BUILDINGS - \$29,800	0.00
Custodial Sal & Wages	\$ 5,728.07
Electricity	2,511.14
Heat & Oil	2,124.90
Water	35.00
Repairs & Maintenance	7,306.45
Supplies	937.41
Groundskeeping	5,300.00
Equipment/Maintenance	3,142.78
Furniture & Fixtures	6.97
Post Office Maintenance	580.45
Elevator	750.00
	<hr/>
CEMETERIES - \$10,400	\$28,423.17
Salaries & Wages	\$13,712.20
Equipment Maintenance	166.20
Gas, Oil, Etc	141.39
Misc	141.91
Equipment	517.55
	<hr/>
INSURANCE - \$51,000	\$14,679.25
NHMA PLIT - G\$25,995.00	
Workers Compensation	17,873.00
Other	2,307.60
	<hr/>
ADVERTISING & REGIONAL ASSOC - \$2,000	\$46,175.60
Southern NH Plan Comm	\$ 1,826.00
	<hr/>
EMERGENCY ELEV REPLACEMENT - \$20,000*	\$ 1,826.00
(*in computer - not on MS-2)	
	<hr/>
POLICE DEPARTMENT - \$192,805	\$18,310.99
Salary & Wages	\$43,652.61
Computer Support	1,795.75
Admin Legal	2,812.00
Telephone	4,434.49
Printing	73.00

Dues, Sub & Seminars	1,174.98
Admin Office Supplies	957.78
Admin Postage	243.03
Books & Periodicals	841.10
Misc	253.82
Officers Sal & Wages	63,851.71
Clerical Sal & Wages	11,010.75
Radar Repair	110.00
Gas, Oil, Etc	4,159.62
95 Cruiser Repair	686.56
95 Cruiser Repair	976.74
Equip & Maint Auto	1,526.99
Matching Grant Video	9,870.00
Training Perm Positions	3,177.90
Health Insurance	10,430.46
Retirement	1,938.17
Special Duty	3,706.88
Radio Repair	1,158.20
Radio Equipment	5,307.00
Uniforms & Equipment	1,448.50
On Call	10,801.38
Training Supplies & Equipment	330.83
Crossing Guard	3,249.60
Office Equipment	2,970.00
Court Time	986.12
Office Maintenance	1,081.60
Overtime	144.41
	<hr/>
AMBULANCE - \$25,000	\$195,161.98
Ambulance Contract	\$ 25,000.00
	<hr/>

FIRE DEPARTMENT & FOREST FIRES - \$35,000

Admin Telephone	\$ 696.89
Electricity	854.46
Heat & Oil	1,110.19
Dues, Subs & Seminars	743.92
Training & Materials	2,650.97
Dispatching Service	2,173.50
Office Supplies	5.09
Gas & Oil	526.23
Office Equipment	324.58
Radio Repair & Maintenance	1,282.03
Radio Equipment	768.11

Uniforms & Equipment	4,726.74
EMT Supplies & Equipment	2,004.75
Comm Pagers	3,282.30
Repairs - Vehicles	1,710.13
Equipment Vehicles	6,889.13
Building Maintenance	317.50
FD - Fire Fighting Equipment	1,800.67
Misc	603.74
Fire Fighting Labor	1,088.94
Fire Fighting Equipment	1,245.00
	<hr/>
	\$34,804.87

BUILDING INSPECTION- \$22,050

Building Insp Salaries & Wages	\$17,391.04
Health Insurance	2,093.22
Telephone	434.47
Electricity	382.74
Dues, Subs & Seminars	270.00
Office Supplies	153.94
Postage	40.00
House Number Expense	80.67
Mileage Reimbursement	521.84
Misc	74.34
Driveway Sal & Wages	1,385.70
Clerical	1,090.13
	<hr/>
	\$23,918.09

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CIV DEF) - \$2,000

Equipment Repair & Maint - Flood	68.94
	<hr/>
	\$ 68.94

OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY - \$3,500

Hazmat Mutual Aid	\$ 3,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,500.00

HIGHWAYS & STREETS - \$185,900

Labor	\$ 6,420.03
Drug Testing	75.00
Telephone	575.50
Electricity	274.54
Paving/Recon Supplies	550.00
Supplies	3,280.66
Signs	51.75
Gas & Oil	368.74
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	5,945.22
Equipment Purchase	2,668.76
Misc	1,001.80

Town of Chester

Sand/Gravel	22,195.24
Plowing	45,919.50
Cold Mix	2,561.48
Salt	13,239.36
Dozer	1,050.00
Loader	3,520.00
Chain Saw	990.00
Excavator	9,862.50
Asphalt	11,327.13
Backhoe	7,235.00
Trucks	21,304.50
Grader	8,347.50
Cold Patch	24.00
Tractor	3,979.76
Clerical	1,032.76
Roadside Cleanup	540.00
Labor - Flood	1,665.30
Supplies - Flood	813.70
Gas & Oil - Flood	48.70
Misc - Flood	337.31
Culverts - Flood	2,160.00
Dozer - Flood	2,310.00
Loader - Flood	2,817.58
Chain Saw - Flood	725.00
Excavator - Flood	3,675.00
Backhoe - Flood	7,325.00
Grader - Flood	1,398.00
Tractor - Flood	300.00
	<hr/>
	\$197,916.32

DEFICIT APPROPRIATION FOR HIGHWAY - \$25,000*

(*on MS-2, however not in computer)	0.00
	<hr/>
	0.00

HSB STREET LIGHTING - \$2,200

Street Lighting Electric	\$ 2,335.41
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,335.41

WASTE DISPOSAL TRASH - \$70,250

Misc	\$2,292.45
Labor	16,992.60
Telephone - Landfill	257.23
Electric - Landfill	924.26
Operator Certification	100.00
Supplies & Equipment	280.87
Waste Metal Removal	646.75

Waste Oil Removal	7.39
Cover & Compact	22,250.00
Tire Removal	1,065.00
Site Work	635.00
Recycling Contract	8,488.00
Haz Waste Collection	698.17
Transport & Tipping	6,696.45
Portable Toilet Rental	673.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 62,007.17

SOLID WASTE CLEANUP\RECYCLE - \$35,500

Monitoring Wells	8,692.81
Engineering	\$33,338.40
	<hr/>
	\$42,031.21

OTHER SANITATION - \$250

Dues, Subs & Seminars	0.00
	<hr/>
	0.00

HEALTH - ADMINISTRATION - \$100

Health & Welfare Salaries & Wages	0.00
	<hr/>
	0.00

PEST CONTROL - \$2,570

ACO Salaries & Wages	688.78
ACO Telephone	167.40
ACO Vet Services	362.25
ACO Kennel Fees	440.00
ACO Supplies	469.20
ACO Misc	120.00
ACO Mileage	1.50
	<hr/>
	\$2,249.13

OTHER HEALTH - \$15,894

Center for Life Management	\$ 3,446.00
Hospice & VNA	10,198.00
Caregivers Program	1,200.00
Sexual Assault Services	500.00
A Safe Place	150.00
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	100.00
Son Shine Soup Kitchen	300.00
	<hr/>
	\$15,894.00

WELFARE - DIRECT ASSISTANCE - \$9,000

Telephone	\$ 213.50
Medical	634.23
Electricity	267.27
Fuel	13.00
Groceries	162.45

Rent	70.00
Misc	25.00
	<hr/> <u>\$ 1,385.45</u>

WELFARE- INTERGOVERNMENTAL PMTS - \$2,753

Community Action Program	\$ 2,453.00
IG Meals on Wheels	210.00
	<hr/> <u>\$ 2,663.00</u>

PARKS & RECREATION - \$9,055

Salary & Wages	\$6,236.50
Telephone	215.76
Contracted Services	477.47
Electricity	500.94
Trash Removal	263.20
Portables	480.00
Supplies & Equipment	887.95
	<hr/> <u>\$9,061.82</u>

LIBRARY - \$46,900

Chester Public Library	\$46,900.00
	<hr/> <u>\$46,900.00</u>

PATRIOTIC PURPOSES - \$250

American Legion	\$ 150.00
	<hr/> <u>\$ 150.00</u>

HISTORIC DIST COMM - \$200

Historic Dist Comm	0.00
	<hr/> <u>0.00</u>

CABLE TV - \$6,960

Telephone	\$ 258.30
Electricity	765.52
Equipment	6,004.43
	<hr/> <u>\$7,028.25</u>

CHESTER SENIOR CITIZENS - \$1,500

Chester Senior Citizen	\$1,500.00
	<hr/> <u>\$1,500.00</u>

TOWN FAIR - \$3,000

Town Fair	\$3,000.00
	<hr/> <u>\$3,000.00</u>

CONSERVATION - \$400

Dues Seminars	\$ 200.00
Miscellaneous	200.00
	<hr/> <u>\$ 400.00</u>

PRINCIPAL - LONG TERM NOTES - \$10,000

Principal - Fire Truck Bond	\$10,000.00
	<hr/> <u>\$10,000.00</u>

DEBT INTEREST - TAX ANTICIPATION	-\$4,500
Debt Int Tan	0.00
	<hr/>
OTHER DEBT SERVICE - \$2,680	
Fire Truck Bond Interest	\$2,680.00
	<hr/>
CO MACHINERY, VEHICLES, EQUIP - \$10,290	
Police Cruiser	\$ 10,286.68
	<hr/>
CO IMPROVEMENTS BUILDINGS - \$1,107,000	
Transfer /Landfill Bond	0.00
	<hr/>
CO IMPROVEMENTS EXCEPT BUILDINGS - \$39,838.00	
Encumbrance - P & Z Contracted Services (\$18,000)	\$10,660.00
Encumbrance - Landfill Engineer (\$21,838)	0.00
	<hr/>
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS - \$11,000	
Revaluation, Police Cruiser, Fire Truck	0.00
	<hr/>
PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS - \$3,456,977	
Taxes paid to County	\$ 205,049.00
Payments to School (adjustments were made)	3,251,928.00
Fees paid to State	2,310.00
	<hr/>
DISCOUNTS/ABATEMENTS/REFUNDS - 0	
Discounts	\$20,890.39
Abatements	3,079.90
Refunds	33,396.14
Taxes Bought by Town	138,315.41
	<hr/>
LIBRARY FUND - 0	
Library Sal & Wages	\$31,541.43
Library Fica	1,955.56
Library Medi	457.39
	<hr/>
TOTAL PAID	\$4,690,266.86 * (computer total)
TOTAL BUDGET	\$5,625,027.00

Note: These figures have been adjusted by the Auditor - see MS-5 (Financial Report-which is accrued)

**Town Clerk's Report
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1997**

Cash on Hand July 1, 1996	\$300.00
Receipts:	
Motor Vehicle Permits - 3,967	344,322.00
Title Applications	1,278.00
Town Fees:	
Landfill	473.00
UCC's & Misc.	1,172.74
Parking Tickets	460.00
Canine Control	755.00
Marriage License	1,186.00
	\$4,046.74
Dog Licenses	3,190.00
Dog Penalties	132.00
Total Receipts	352,968.74
Payments to Treasurer	352,968.74
Cash on Hand June 30, 1997	300.00

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara L. Gagnon
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Tax Collector's Report

For the Municipality of Chester - Year Ending 6/30/97

	<u>1997 Levy</u>	<u>1996 Levy</u>	<u>1995 Levy</u>
<u>Uncollected Taxes</u>			
<u>Beg. of Year:</u>			
Property Taxes	426,146.28		
Yield Taxes		1,330.82	
<u>Taxes Committed</u>			
<u>This Year:</u>			
Property Taxes	2,093,972.13	2,190,410.49	
Land Use Change	43,887.40		
Yield Taxes	620.73	5,856.79	
Reconciling Item		12.77	
<u>Overpayment:</u>			
Property Taxes	12,472.46	19,861.24	
Interest Collected on Delinquent Tax	390.74	23,443.30	
<u>Total Debits</u>	<hr/> \$2,151,343.46	\$2,665,720.87	\$1,330.82
<u>Remitted to Treasurer</u>			
<u>During FY:</u>			
Property Taxes	1,621,313.99	2,602,778.26	
Land Use Change	34,556.40		
Yield Taxes	620.73	4,887.45	1,330.82
Interest	390.74	23,443.30	
Overpayments	12,472.46	19,861.24	
<u>Discounts Allowed:</u>	9,377.92	8,645.45	
<u>Abatements Made:</u>			
Property Taxes	2,078.77	5,145.83	
<u>Uncollected Taxes</u>			
<u>-End of Year:</u>			
Property Taxes	461,201.45		
Land Use Change	9,331.00		
Yield Taxes		959.34	
<u>Total Credits</u>	<hr/> \$2,151,343.46	\$2,665,720.87	\$1,330.82

	1996 <u>Levy</u>	1995 <u>Levy</u>	1995 <u>Levy</u>	1993 <u>Levy</u>
Unredeemed Liens				
Balance at Beg. of Fiscal Yr.		102,164.66	58,012.44	4,643.15
Liens Executed During Fiscal Yr.	138,315.41	7,952.02		
Interest & Costs Coll. After Lien Execution	904.05		17,887.76	1,338.36
Total Debits	\$139,219.46	\$110,116.68	\$75,900.20	\$5,981.51

Remittance to Treasurer:

Redemptions	31,063.61	44,792.21	56,960.92	2,829.71
Int./Costs (After Lien Execution)	904.05	7,952.02	17,887.76	1,338.36
Liens Deeded to Municipalities	1,137.45	1,247.99	1,051.52	1,813.44
Unredeemed Liens Bal. End of Year	106,114.35	56,124.46		
Total Credits	\$139,219.46	\$110,116.68	\$75,900.20	\$5,981.51

Barbara L. Gagnon
Tax Collector
Dated 7/9/97

Plodzik & Sanderson Professional Association

193 North Main Street Concord, N.H. 03301 (603)225-6996

Independent Auditors Report on Financial Presentation

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen
Town of Chester
Chester, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester as of and for the year ended June 30, 1997 as listed in the table of contents. These general-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general-purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Chester has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Chester, as of June 30, 1997, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general-purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

August 22, 1997
Plodzik & Sanderson
Professional Association

Chester Budget Advisory Report

We have reviewed the proposed budget submitted by the Board of Selectmen for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1998 and ending June 30, 1999. The Selectmen have proposed a budget that includes an increase in base spending of .03%. This year is also the first year of the bond and interest payments for the Transfer Station and Landfill which will result in a total increase in spending of 14% over last year. In addition, revenues from operations have increased 22%. The overall impact represents an approximate 1.4% (\$.18) increase in tax rate for the next year.

Our review did not take into consideration any tax increases that are a result of warrant articles that are proposed in this budget. At present, each increase of \$85,000.00 in spending represents a \$1.00 increase on the tax rate.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Parnell
Bruce Baker
Paul Kretschmer

**Town Warrant
State of New Hampshire**

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Chester, N. H. in the County of Rockingham in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at Stevens Memorial Hall in said Chester on Tuesday, the twelfth of May next, at 10:00 in the forenoon to act on Articles #1 - #7. The polls will close at 7:00 p.m.. After the ballots are counted, the meeting is adjourned until Wednesday, May 13, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Chester Elementary School. Articles # 8 through Article # 33 will be taken up at that time.

Article #1. To choose all necessary Town Officials for the ensuing year.

Article #2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows: Subsection 4.9 - Home Occupation/Home Business: A Home Business will be differentiated from a Home Occupation by the impact either may have on the neighborhood or town?

Article #3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows: Subsection 5.5 - Flood Plain Conservation District: To enable the Town to be eligible for the National Flood Insurance Program? This amendment is intended to preserve the existing Flood Plain Conservation District while adding terms for flood insurance with the express provision that it is to apply only to structures existing as valid nonconforming uses in the Flood Plain Conservation District.

Article #4. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows: Article 3 - Zoning Maps: Amend Subsection 3.2.2 to change map name from "Special Flood Hazard Areas" to "Flood Hazard";

to amend Subsection 3.2.2 to change map name from “Development Capabilities Map 1985” to “Generalized Development Constraints Map 1997”; and to amend Zoning Map to add “Federal Insurance Administration Flood Hazard Boundary Maps” to Subsection 3.2.2.

Article #5. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows: Definitions - Creation of new definitions for the following: Subsection 2.34 - Setback; Subsection 2.35 - Setback, front; Subsection 2.36 - Setback, side or rear; Subsection 2.42 - Structure?

Article #6. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Building Code as follows: CABO Building Code: Amend the CABO Single-Family and Two-Family Dwelling Code to the 1995 edition and allow for the simplified version of updating this code. (1995 is the most recent edition of the code)

Article #7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred and Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$499,000) for the purpose of preparing plans and specifications, and the construction and equipping of a Fire Station on the Mossman/Grimes Property (Map 5 Lot 19) for the use of the Town of Chester’s Fire Department; \$499,000 of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance act, RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; to further authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof: and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other necessary action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.) (2/3 Ballot Vote Required)

Article #8. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, and Committees of Officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

Article #9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$360,000 to acquire the development rights to approximately

91 acres of land owned by Robert and Arthur Dolloff on Halls Village Road and Town Farm Road (Map 2 Lot 50 and a portion of Map 2 Lot 55). A maximum amount of \$180,000 is to be raised by taxation with the remainder to be offset by matching funds from the Federal Farmland Protection Program and/or other available grants. If a lesser amount of matching funds is made available the Selectmen are authorized to acquire the development rights on less than the 91 acres; any unexpended funds will be returned to the Town's General Fund. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to convey to the Chester School District an approximate twenty-five (25) acre parcel from the "Mossman Property", Tax Map 5 Lot 19, the precise location and dimensions of the parcel to be determined by the Selectmen after consultation with the School Board.

Article #11. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into an agreement to lease a portion of the Mossman property, off Stockman Hill Road, for a telecommunications tower.

Article #12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Twenty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Eight Dollars (\$428,828) as may be necessary to defray Town Charges (TC) for the ensuing year. (See TC Budget Figures) (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$87,567 for General Government: \$22,776 for Planning Board, \$3,510 for Z.B.A., \$57,320 for Government Buildings, and \$1,961 for Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$102,000 for the purpose of Re-assessment; and to further authorize the Selectmen to withdraw \$39,000 plus interest from the Capital Reserve Fund established for that purpose. The balance is to be raised by taxation. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for the Planning Board to hire a professional planner to design a Growth Management Ordinance. (Selectmen and Planning Board recommend.)

Article #16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000) to hire a Natural Resource Code Enforcement Planner from Rockingham Planning Commission; and to further authorize the Selectmen to apply for grants to offset the expenditure. (\$4,000 from grants and \$7,000 from taxation) (Selectmen and Planning Board recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #17. The Town of Chester shall have a one year moratorium (Town Meeting to next years Town Meeting) for new subdivisions under Article 7 of Chester Planning and Zoning Ordinance in order to study, plan and establish goals for low/moderate income housing. (By Petition) (Petition available during Selectmen's Office hours)

Article #18. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of historic document preservation; and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to be placed in this fund; and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend for document preservation. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) for the restoration of the Town Pound. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety-two Dollars (\$3,292) to pay for certain studies of electric load profiles within the Town and other related research in furtherance of the possible aggregation of the Town's and/or its residents' and businesses' electric loads in the NHMA Pooled Energy Plan in preparation for deregulation of the electric industry in New Hampshire. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$314,017 for Public Safety which includes \$214,005 for the

Police Department, \$25,000 for the Ambulance, \$34,500 for the Fire Department, \$4,500 for Forest Fires and Fire Trails, \$2,000 for Emergency Management, \$3,500 for Public Safety, and \$30,512 for the Building Inspector. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Thousand Dollars (\$13,000) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$207,515 to defray the expenses of the Highway Department and Bridges. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for the re-construction of a portion of Candia Road; as recommended by the C.I.P. as adopted by the Planning Board in April 1991 and amended in May 1996. (Selectmen and Planning Board recommend.)

Article #25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,139 to defray the expenses of the Welfare Department; \$9,350 for Direct Assistance and \$3,789 for Intergovernmental Welfare payments. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$128,096 for Waste Management which includes \$103,096 for the Municipal Waste Disposal and Recycling, \$20,000 for the monitoring wells at the Chester Landfill, and \$5,000 for Solid Waste Engineering. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to contribute to a local or regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Project. (\$1,000 to be raised by taxes, the remainder to be funded by a \$19,000 grant.) The Project will provide residents access to a household hazardous waste collection to dispose of household generated hazardous waste such as oil based paints, paint thinners, solvents, pesticides and spent antifreeze. Further, the project will also seek to educate citizens about

the adverse consequences of improper household hazardous waste disposal. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,586 for Town Health, \$2,570 for Pest Control, and \$12,016 for Other Health. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$76,480 for Culture and Recreation, which includes \$55,900 for the Chester Public Library, \$6,300 for the Cable Committee, \$9,630 for Parks and Recreation Commission, \$3,000 for the Chester Conservation Commission, \$150 for Patriotic Purposes, and \$1,500 for Senior Citizens. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the support of the Town Fair. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #31. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell surplus equipment at public auction or by sealed bids. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #32. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to allow a discount of 1% on all property taxes paid in full within 10 days after mailing the property tax bills. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article #33. To transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Signed this 20th day of April 1998

The Board of Selectmen, Town of Chester

Andrew L. Hadik, Chairman

Colin M. Costine, Selectman

Charlotte A. Lister, Selectman

BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF CHESTER, NH

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year from July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999

<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>	Approp. 96/97	Expended 96/97	Approp. 97/98	Approp. 97/98	Approp. 98/99	WA#s
Executive	26,790	TC	28,977	37,840	TC	33,784
Election Registration & Vital St	19,395	TC	20,876	26,225	TC	24,545
Financial Administration	76,420	TC	74,638	81,280	TC	90,385
Revaluation of Property	2,500		1,352	2,500	TC	2,500
Legal Expense	21,000	TC	16,918	TC	25,000	TC
Personnel Administration	25,100	TC	25,673	26,000	TC	27,100
Planning and Zoning	25,300		14,963	31,900		26,286
General Government Building	29,800		28,423	40,420		59,320
Cemeteries	10,400	TC	14,669	11,975	TC	15,175
Insurance	51,000	TC	46,176	55,100	TC	39,700
Advertising and Regional Asso.	2,000		1,826	2,000		1,961
Deficit 95/96 Emerg Elev Rep.			18,311			13
PUBLIC SAFETY						
Police	192,805		195,162	207,349		214,005
Ambulance	25,000		25,000	25,000		21
Fire & Forest Fires	35,000		34,805	37,000		39,000
Bldg. Inspection	22,050		23,888	24,375		30,512
Emergency Mgt.	2,000		69	2,000		2,000
Other Public Safety	3,500			3,500		3,500

Town of Chester

	<u>Approp. 96/97</u>	<u>Expended 96/97</u>	<u>Approp. 97/98</u>	<u>Approp. 98/99</u>	<u>W/H#s</u>
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS					
Highways and Streets	185,900	197,916	185,900	207,015	23
Other Highway/Bridges		62,758		500	23
Street Lighting	2,200 TC	2,335	2,300	2,575	TC
Deficit Approp. for Highw.	25,000				
SANITATION					
Solid Waste Disposal	70,250	62,007	133,020	103,096	26
Solid Waste Cleanup/Wells/Eng.	35,750	42,031	25,000	25,000	26
HEALTH					
Pest Control (ACO)	2,570	2,249	2,570	2,570	28
Other Health	15,994	15,894	16,144	12,016	28
WELFARE					
Direct Assistance	9,000	1,283	9,050	9,350	25
Intergov. Welfare Payments	2,753	2,663	4,097	3,789	25
CULTURE AND RECREATION					
Parks and Recreation	9,055	9,062	10,510	9,630	29
Library	46,900	46,900	49,900	55,900	29
Patriotic Purposes	250	150	150	150	29
Other Culture and Recreation	11,660	11,528	12,150	10,800	29/30
CONSERVATION					
Other Conservation	400	400	1,300	3,000	29

1997 Annual Report

<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>								
Princ. - Fire Truck Bond	10,000	TC	10,000		10,000	TC	10,000	TC
Princ. - Transfer/Landfill Bond	4,500	TC		4,500	TC	94,519	TC	
Interest on TAN	2,680	TC	2,680			4,500	TC	
Interest - Fire Station Bond						14,700	TC	
Interest - Transfer/Landfill Bond						29,265	TC	
Interest - Fire Truck Bond			1,880			1,080	TC	

<u>CAPITAL OUTLAY</u>								
Machine, Veh & Equip (Cruiser)	10,290		10,287		25,000			
Transfer/Landfill	1,107,000							
Improvements Other than Bldgs			10,660		36,010			
Fire Station						499,000		
Town Pound Restoration						3,500		
						7		
						19		
<u>OTHER</u>								
Candia Road			25,000			25,000		24
Growth Management Ordinance						30,000		15
Household Haz Waste Day						20,000		27
NHMA Pooled Energy Plan						3,292		20
Natural Resource Code Planner						11,000		16
Dolloff Farm Dev Rights						360,000		9
<u>OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT</u>								
To Capital Reserve Fund			11,000				13,000	22
Cap Revaluation							102,000	14
Historic Document Preservation							3,000	18
Total Appropriations	\$2,133,212		\$1,077,029		\$1,193,945		\$2,343,020	

Revenues

	<u>1996-1997 Estim. Rev</u>	<u>1996-1997 Actual Rev</u>	<u>1997-1998 Estim. Rev.</u>	<u>1998-1999 Est. Rev</u>	<u>WA#is</u>
<u>Taxes</u>					
Land Use Change Taxes	30,000	43,887			
Yield Taxes	6,000	6,468	5,000	4,000	
Int. & Penalt. on Del Taxes	40,000	51,916	28,000	30,300	
<u>Licenses, Permits, and Fees</u>					
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	255,000	345,600	301,000	336,000	
Building Permits	17,000	23,949	17,500	22,500	
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	5,000	5,269	5,500	4,700	
<u>From Federal Government</u>					
Cops Grant	28,000	17,930	22,000	15,000	
Emergency Management Assist.		62,758			
Dolloff Farm				180,000	9
<u>State</u>					
Shared Revenue	39,416	87,679	16,043	65,000	
Highway Block Grant	53,422	58,924	62,900	60,000	
State Rooms and Meals Tax			33,243	30,000	
Other		119			
State 20% TS/LF Grant				17,277	
Natural Resource Code Planner				4,000	16
Haz Waste Day Reimb				19,000	27

<u>Charges for Services</u>				
Income from Departments	15,000	10,585	12,000	18,000
<u>Miscellaneous Revenues</u>				
Rents of Property/Post Office	11,395			9,000
Fines and Forfeits	605			500
Interest on Investments	35,000	58,084	40,000	53,000
Other	40,000	43,591	48,000	40,100
Trust and Agency Funds	1,600	1,348	2,000	2,000
<u>Proceeds from Long Term Notes & Bonds</u>				
Landfill		1,107,000		
Fire Station			499,000	7
<u>Capital Reserve</u>				
Capital Reserve (Police Cruiser)			11,000	
Cap Res Reval				39,000
Total Rev. Credits =	\$1,672,438	\$830,107	\$604,186	\$1,460,877

**Wilcomb Townsend Trust Fund
Annual Report
July 1, 1996 - June 30, 1997**

These funds are available for Chester residents 55 years of age or over to help with fuel, medications, or other necessities. Written application may be made to any Trustee.

7/1/96	Beginning Balance	\$00.00
	Receipts	\$7,031.19
Disbursements:		
	Handicapped Renovations	1,634.36
	Window Repairs	319.10
	Auto Repairs	374.15
	Post Office - Stamps	12.80
	Bank Activity Fees	30.50
	State of NH Annual Fee	50.00
	Wood	1,200.00
	Duston Oil	1,923.94
	Granite State Telephone	139.39
	NH Electric Co-op	641.43
	Lee Boles Oil	132.75
	Fuller Oil	572.77
	Total Disbursement	<u>\$7,031.19</u>
6/30/97	Ending Balance	\$00.00

Trustees:

Tina Butterfield	1999
Catherine Fogg	2000
Barbara Dolloff	2001
Isabelle Rand	2002

Respectfully Submitted
Cynthia Tunberg, Treasurer

Report of the Trust Funds of the City or Town of

Chester, New Hampshire

On June 30, 19

97

DATE OF CREATION	NAME OF TRUST FUND List first those trusts invested in a common trust fund	PURPOSE OF TRUST FUND	HOW INVESTED Whether bank, deposits, stocks, bonds etc. (if Common trust, so state)	Balance Beginning Year %	New Funds Created	Cash Gains or (losses) on Securities	Balance End Year Withdrawals	INCOME DURING YEAR			Grand Total of Principal & Income at End of Year
								Balance Beginning Year	Percent	Amount	
28-Mar-18	Village Cemetery Trust	Perpetual care of cemetery	Money market funds and bonds	2.73	24,634.11		24,634.11	0.00	2.11%	1,348.01	0.00
13-Dec-43	Anna Tuck French Trust	Perpetual care French Pho	Money market funds and bonds	0.55	5,000.00		5,000.00	0.00	0.64%	409.81	0.00
24-Dec-46	Great Hill Cemetery Trust	Perpetual care of cemetery	Money market funds and bonds	7.55	54,882.36		54,882.36	8,837.36	7.02%	4,488.34	13,125.70
01-Feb-78	Ruth Ray Trust I/bo	Fire Prevention Equipment	Money market funds and bonds (Common Trust)	0.55	5,000.00		5,000.00	0.00	0.65%	417.10	0.00
07-Oct-88	Rhoda A. Murphy Trust I/bo	Fire Dept. Unassigned	Money market funds and bonds (Common Trust)	12.11	109,095.81		109,095.81	0.00	10.35%	6,616.17	0,616.17
04-Mar-93	Chester Fire Department E. Alabonson Trust I/bo	Fire Dept.	Money market funds and bonds (Common Trust)	0.24	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,134.09	0.13%	84.22	1,134.09
10-Feb-10	George W. Stevens Trust I/bo	Public Library	Money market funds and bonds (Common Trust)	0.04	339.90		339.90	0.00	0.11%	73.22	339.90
02-Jan-31	John C. Chase Trust I/bo	Library	Money market funds and bonds (Common Trust)	0.06	500.00		500.00	0.00	0.17%	105.65	105.65
09-Jul-86	Chester Public Library	Library	Money market funds and bonds	0.55	5,000.00		5,000.00	0.00	0.65%	415.28	415.28
25-Jan-88	Dorothy Shindt Memorial Trust I/bo	Chester Public Library	Money market funds and bonds (Common Trust)	0.06	500.00		500.00	0.00	0.17%	105.65	105.65
26-Jun-91	Maria M. Lindgren Trust I/bo	Library	Money market funds and bonds (Common Trust)	0.06	500.00		500.00	0.00	0.17%	105.65	105.65
24-Jun-79	Ruth Ray Trust I/bo School and Public Libraries	60% Public School	Bank Deposit Common Inst Fund	41.76	376,278.01		376,278.01	0.00	43.00%	27,494.92	27,494.92
24-Aug-79	Ruth Ray Trust I/bo School and Public Libraries	40% Public School	Stocks Common Inst Fund	2.71	30,599.45	(6,297.03)	24,462.42	0.00	4.80%	3,067.98	3,067.98
07-Oct-88	Rhoda A. Murphy Trust I/bo	Library	Bank Deposit Common Inst Fund	12.19	105,824.92		109,824.92	0.00	11.08%	7,084.83	0.00
30-Mar-45	De James Brown School Book Trust Fund	School	Common Inst Fund	0.55	5,000.00		5,000.00	0.00	1.65%	1,057.04	0.00
1915	Watcomb Home Trust	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	0.50	4,466.98		4,466.98	0.00	0.59%	373.02	373.02
1927	Lydia A. Newell Trust	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	1.51	13,573.59		13,573.59	0.00	1.77%	1,133.50	0.00
Feb-46	Watcomb Townsend Home Trust I	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	2.01	18,114.81		18,114.81	0.00	2.37%	1,517.70	0.00
15-Jul-60	Watcomb Townsend Home Trust II	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	0.81	7,284.21		7,284.21	0.00	0.95%	606.82	606.82
08-Feb-46	Watcomb Townsend Home Trust III	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	1.11	10,000.00		10,000.00	0.00	1.31%	835.07	0.00
14-Mar-72	Watcomb Townsend Home Trust IV	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	0.57	5,144.00		5,144.00	0.00	0.67%	429.56	0.00
01-Feb-82	Watcomb Townsend Home Trust V	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	0.41	3,735.75		3,735.75	0.00	0.49%	311.96	0.00
09-Feb-84	Watcomb Townsend Trust I	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	2.42	21,820.18		21,820.18	0.00	2.65%	1,822.15	0.00
05-Feb-83	Watcomb Townsend Trust II	Town Poor	Common Inst Fund	0.45	4,051.54		4,051.54	0.00	0.53%	338.34	0.00

1997 Annual Report

Report of the Trust Funds of the City or Town of Chester, New Hampshire

On June 30, 19

97

State Representative Report

The 1997 Session of the New Hampshire Legislature began on January 8th and ran through June 25th.

This session of the Legislature was the busiest of the past five years that I have represented the citizens of Chester and Fremont. A record number of bills had been filed and necessitated my attendance in Concord four to five days per week during the months of hearings and sessions. The normal attendance over the past four years had been three days a week.

A total of 1,007 Senate and House bills were introduced. The 424 member Legislature passed 375 bills and rereferred a total of 199 for study in the fall of 1997.

In 1997, I was again selected as a Member of the Rockingham County Executive Board and appointed Chairman of the Subcommittee overseeing the Maintenance Department of the County Complex. This department has a total budget of \$2,261,796.

Two bills which I had the pleasure of sponsoring became law.

One bill was presented on behalf of the Town of Fremont Police Department and concerned the speed limit lights which control traffic speed in front of the Fremont School. Since Fremont had gone to staggered starts, the time for legal speeding tickets did not cover the actual time involved. A one-word change to the law ensured that all speeding tickets written during the time involved with the start and ending of school would be honored by the courts, thus ensuring the safety of the children.

My bill to bring amateur boxing back to the State of New Hampshire was successful. A great deal of help was provided by Senator Amy Patenaude of Henniker, who helped to hammer out a compromise that accomplished what I started over four years ago. Now Jeff Lewis, the No. 1 contender in the Silver Gloves competition from Weare, NH, can rightfully claim that distinction from the State of New Hampshire.

Senator Jack Barnes, Representative Thomas Varrell (Danville), and I worked quietly behind the scenes to ensure the continuance of the Spaulding Frost Company in Fremont.

I also worked with a local business man to overcome the attempts by the Department of Labor to put him out of business with their arrogant demands and potential fines, this saving the employment of the workers.

My job is made a bit easier when you are willing to share your thoughts and ideas with me.

I may be reached by phone at 483-8792 or you may write to me at 157 Smith Road, Chester, N.H. 03036-4030. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jon P. Beaulieu, Representative
Rockingham District 10

Report of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

In the past year, this board has continued to perform our principal role of addressing appeals from administrative decisions, and reviewing applications for zoning variances and special exceptions. Another important function of this board is to interpret the intent of the zoning ordinance, which we are often called upon to do.

Sometimes praised, and sometimes criticized, this board of dedicated volunteers strives to exercise proper judgment in all matters coming before us, taking into consideration the best interests of the Town of Chester and the needs of the individual.

At the same time we are guided by the intent and spirit of the Zoning Ordinance. We must also take into consideration the impact that individual requests for zoning public interest there may be. The most difficult decision is to alleviate and injustice or hardship without granting an illegal variance. We must also take into consideration the rules and regulation of the State of New Hampshire.

I would like to thank the following Board Members for the unselfish contribution of their valuable time to the service of their community:

David Hill

Cynthia Herman

Janice Jeans

Bob Grimm

Stephen Landau, PB Rep.

Janet Boyden, Administrative Assistant and Alternate

Respectfully submitted,

Billy Maloney

Chairperson ZBA

Report of the Chester Public Library

The success of any library depends on many people. This includes the patrons, the staff, the Trustees, the Friends of the Library, and the many other groups that support it. The Library is grateful for the Lion's donation to the citizens of Chester of two Optelec machines (1 portable) for people with low vision; the Fortnightly Club for their continuing monetary support; the Rockingham Herb Society for the Herbal Companion Magazine; and the Friends of the Library for their great generosity. The Friends host an annual Country Crafts Day in September to benefit the Library, as well as running the 4th grade workshops, the summer reading program, the monthly story hours, and their donation of our Library magnets. This year the Friends donated \$2,000.00 for new computers. And, yes, they are working on a new phone book and could use your help. The Library also received \$1,000.00 from the State Library and \$100.00 from PSNH, both for technology enhancement. Thank you all.

The Library had many programs this past year including Great Books, The Chester Book Club, Mardi Gras, "Big Cheese" Day, Chester Poetry Club, "Food for Fines", Fiddler's Green Flower Workshops, 3rd Grade, Kindergarten, and Pre-school visits, We had guests from Fox Den and many out-of-state people studying genealogy.

Our summer reading program had a "Space Theme" Sean Keon and Jeff Hignett were our local "Galaxy" experts and we thank them. Cindy Burner remains our "Fitness Expert" Kenna Burt and Alison Baker hosted their annual Cookie Walk to support the Library. We "thank" Col. Benton for out new 1793 flag each year.

Trustee Dorothy Wells passed away during her term. We miss her wit and her contributions to the Board. Melissa Rossetti and Ed Hewson both resigned from the Board of Trustees but both continue to help us from behind the scenes. We welcomed Brenda Gilliland to the staff in December and Linda Ristaino became our Friday "Story Lady" in September.

Statistically, we are thriving. We have 3,468 patrons; we have 30,504 materials; patrons borrowed 56,325 books, audios, and videos this past year. We have passes to NH & Mass. attractions; we deliver & pick up books from your home; we sponsor national Library Week. Most of all we enjoy all of you that come into the Library and hope to see you soon!

Library Director, Judy Balk

Chester Public Library
Cash Flow Report
6/30/97

Beginning Balance as of 7/1/96

Checking	\$244.20
Investment Portfolio	57,877.18
Petty Cash	100.00

Income

	Budgeted	Actual
Interest	-0-	231.41
Investment Portfolio	2,500.00	-0-
Town Appropriation	46,900.00	46,900.00
Trust Fund	14,000.00	27,014.00
Misc. (Other)	-0-	3,324.50
Non-Resident Member	-0-	40.00
Phone	-0-	85.75
Copier	-0-	2,000.00
Total Income	63,400.00	79,596.16
	+244.20	79,840.36
		.78**
		79,839.58

Expenses

Books	\$13,000.00	\$19,713.23
Other Media	3,500.00	4,136.81
Subscriptions	1,000.00	1,227.03
Dues	150.00	50.00
Misc.	500.00	378.30
Postage	400.00	396.14
Library Supplies	1,900.00	1,574.27
Telephone	750.00	954.06
Travel	350.00	65.41
Utilities	2,750.00	2,666.38
Education	100.00	148.00
Equip. Maintenance	1,500.00	4,849.02
Computer Supplies	1,500.00	2,345.84
Book Reviews	200.00	286.00
Building Maintenance	1,000.00	1,113.93

Town of Chester

Custodial Supplies	50.00	61.82
Special Events	600.00	409.02
Trustees Purchases	1,150.00	496.71
Building Fund	-0-	-0-
Wages	33,000.00	33,860.38
Total Expenses	\$63,400.00	\$74,732.35
Balance In Checkbook	\$5,107.23	
** Deposit Errors	- \$30.00	
Bank Errors	- .86	
Interest 9/5/96	+ 17.42	
Check #2692	+12.66	
	-.78	

Mary Ann Marchi, Treasurer

Chester Planning Board

In 1997, the Chester Planning Board approved four (4) new subdivisions creating forty-two (42) new lots. These numbers include the low-moderate income development on Sandown Road (Rt. 121A). While the creation of new subdivisions is low, already existing subdivisions are becoming active.

For this reason, the Planning Board is currently interviewing professional planners to help us investigate the possibility of implementing a Growth Management Ordinance. There will be a Warrant Article heard at Town Meeting asking for funding for this project.

Over the next year, the Planning Board will continue working on Site Plan Review Regulations and Excavation Regulations.

The Planning Board has been urged by residents and town officials/committees to look at our Home Occupation Ordinance to see if we could amend the ordinance to address various problems which have surfaced over the years. After looking at ordinances from other towns, the Board decided to rewrite the entire ordinance paying particular attention to those areas which were brought to our attention. These areas centered around the types of businesses allowed, traffic congestion and regulating authority.

The Planning Board has developed amendments for the Flood Plain Conservation District which will enable the town to become a member in the National Flood Insurance Program. This came about after several years of working with State and Federal authorities.

The Planning Board is proposing the following Zoning Amendments this year:

Amendment #1 Amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Subsection 4.9 Home Occupation/Home Business

A Home Business will be differentiated from a Home Occupation by the impact either may have on the neighborhood or town

Amendment #2 Amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Subsection 5.5 Flood Plain Conservation District

To enable the Town to be eligible for the National Flood Insurance Program. This amendment is intended to preserve the existing Flood Plain Conservation District while adding terms for flood insurance with the express provision that it is to apply only to structures existing as valid nonconforming uses in the Flood Plain Conservation District.

**If this amendment does not pass, residents will not be eligible
for any flood insurance.**

Amendment #3 Amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Article 3 Zoning Maps

Amend Subsection 3.2.2 to change map name from “Special Flood Hazard Areas” to “Flood Hazard”.

Amend Subsection 3.2.2 to change map name from “Development Capabilities Map 1985” to “Generalized Development Constraints Map 1997”.

Amend Zoning Map to add “Federal Insurance Administration Flood Hazard Boundary Maps” to Subsection 3.2.2.

Amendment #4 Amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Definitions

Creation of new definitions for the following:

Subsection 2.34 - Setback

Subsection 2.35 - Setback, front

Subsection 2.36 - Setback, side or rear

Subsection 2.42 - Structure

Amendment #5 Amend the Building Code as follows:

CABO Building Code

Amend the CABO Single-Family and Two-Family Dwelling Code to the 1995 edition and allow for the simplified version of updating this code. (1995 is the most recent edition of the code)

The Planning Board asks that you

Please vote “YES” on the above proposed amendments.

Copies of any of these amendments are available in the Town Clerk’s Office, Board of Selectmen’s Office and the Planning Board Office during regular business hours.

The Board welcomes any questions and input regarding its regulations. The Board meets on the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in the Town Hall starting at 7:30 P. M.

Anyone interested in becoming a Planning Board member should contact the Board of Selectmen's Office or attend a Planning Board meeting.

The Planning Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Dick Dyson for the time and parts he donated to upgrade the Planning Board's computer. His effort has enhanced the day to day operation of the Planning Board Office.

The Planning Board has office hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. (the building closes at 12:45 P.M.) in the Planning and Zoning Office in the Town Hall. The office telephone number is 887-5629. If this schedule changes, a notice will be posted outside Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Chester Planning Board

Scott Rice, Chairman

Cynthia J. Robinson, Administrative Assistant

Richard Snyder, Vice Chairman

Stephen Landau

Evan Sederquest

Camilla Lockwood

Carl Morin, Alternate

William Gregsak, Alternate

Andrew Hadik Ex-Officio

Building Inspector's Report

With one-hundred sixty-three home improvements, thirty new single family homes, and one replacement single family home permits issued, for a total of one-hundred ninety-four, 1997 was a very active year.

Total revenue generated from building permits amounted to nineteen-thousand four-hundred ninety-five dollars and seventy-nine cents (\$19,495.79).

New Residential Home Permits Issued 1997

Name	Tax Map	Street
Skyline Ind.	9-81-56	Meadow Fox Lane
Skyline Ind.	9-81-61	Eagle Crest Drive
G. Gage	6-14-3	Deerwood Hollow
Desisto Ent.	9-81-60	Meadow Fox Lane
R. Trahan	10-9-7	Jennifer Drive
T. Picone	9-81-35	Pheasant Run Drive
Desisto Ent.	9-81-47	Meadow Fox Lane
Donigian Const.	9-4-12	Raven Drive
S. Saulten	7-14-0	Candia Road
P. Leitner	2-28-6	East Derry Road
Asset Resolution Corp.	11-13-2	Smith Road
T. Grimes	5-39-1	Ledge Road
Donigian Const.	9-4-8	Raven Drive
L. Bussy	9-81-70	Meadow Fox Lane
D. Myers	11-37-2	Shattigee Road
Delridge Realty Corp.	9-81-62	Meadow Fox Lane
K. Pilote	9-81-71	Meadow Fox Lane
Lamphere Const.	9-81-63	Meadow Fox Lane
Punch Pone Realty	9-4-0	Fremont Road
G. Emerson	9-81-57	Meadow Fox Lane
Turnagain LLC	6-17-10	Morgan Lane
Turnagain LLC	6-17-9	Morgan Lane
Vista Homes, Inc.	11-13-0	Smith Road
R. Magoon	9-81-48	Meadow Fox Lane
Donigian Const.	9-4-11	Raven Drive
Lamphere Const.	8-70-1	Crawford Road
Lamphere Const.	8-70-2	Crawford Road
Reddy Home Blds, Inc.	6-17-8	Morgan Lane
J. Greer	2-54-0	Halls Village Road
Desisto Ent.	9-81-72	Meadow Fox Lane

Replacement Permit

D. Leighton 2-60-0 Halls Village Road

Residential Home Improvements in 1997

10	Additions
6	Barns
1	Chimney
15	Decks
36	Electrical
7	Garage
13	Heating
7	Home Occupations
6	Miscellaneous
5	Porches
11	Plumbing
7	Renovations
1	Second Floor Addition
11	Septic Replacements
10	Swimming Pools
1	Signs
10	Sheds
3	Razed Buildings
3	Permit Renewals

Reminder

I would like to remind homeowners "WHY BUILDING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED." A building permit serves as formal and legal permission to start any construction project. The issuance of a building permit indicates that plans for a new structure, addition, renovation, septic system, swimming pool, electrical, plumbing, or heating system have been reviewed and approved by the Building Inspector and that the plans comply with the adopted codes and zoning laws. Permit applications may be picked up in my office or the Selectmen's office.

Building Inspector's Office Hours

Monday 8:00 - 12:00

Wednesday 8:00 - 12:00

Friday 10:00 - 12:00

Inspections conducted after 12:00 noon

Respectfully submitted,
David S. Jore
Telephone: 887-5552

Highway Report

July 1, 1997 -December 31, 1997

Culverts were replaced on Old Chester Turnpike, Candia, Halls Village, Town Farm, and Wells Village. All culverts were cleaned of debris. Shoulder work was done on Candia, Old Chester Turnpike, Great Oak, Millyard, Sandown, Hanson, Deep Hole, and Wason. All roadsides were mowed and brush was removed. All dirt roads had gravel put on and were graded and raked as needed. The Highway Department installed road signs and house numbers where needed through out the town.

The following roads were shimmed and paved:

Fremont Road	-	5,036 feet
Great Oak Drive*	-	2,311 feet
Shepard Home Road	-	300 feet
Harantis Lake Road	-	975 feet
Pingree Hill Road*	-	1,321 feet

* Road was completely repaved.

Capital improvement money was spent to blow up ledge and remove trees from Candia Road. Candia Road was widened and shoulders were graveled with 1 1/2 run gravel.

During the winter of 97/98 the following materials were used:

375 tons of salt
1,500 yards of sand

These materials were used on all town roads. The highway department also used these on the parking lots and driveways of the Post Office, Town Hall, Transfer Station Road, and the School.

Thanks to all who helped this year.

Respectively Submitted,
Clarence Ware, Road Agent

Chester Highway Safety Committee

The Highway Safety Committee is a citizens group that offers guidance to Town Departments and Committees on highway safety related issues and, as in years past, works with Town Departments who might qualify for State and/or Federal Grants which have to do with highway safety.

The most recent grant purchase was for video equipment for the police cruisers. The equipment has arrived, been installed and is functioning.

School bus evacuation drills continue to be of importance. The drills take place twice a year and whenever possible, Committee members are present. The orderly discharge from a bus during "critical" times show the importance of these drills.

As day care centers and pre-schools continue to increase throughout the town, highway safety at these locations is of the utmost concern to this Committee. The Police Department monitors the traffic in these locations and brings to the Committee's attention any potential problems.

While there is usually a good turnout for the Memorial Day Observance, the "Blessing of the Pets", Town Fair, Veteran's Day Parade and the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, from the standpoint of highway safety, no incidents were noted this past year.

Halloween on the other hand has become a major event in town. With upwards of 600 Trick-or-Treaters this past year, pedestrian traffic along Rts. 102 and 121, is a major highway safety concern. Guidelines having to do with the parking of vehicles and pedestrian traffic are published prior to the event.

The Highway Safety Committee, with input from the School Board, has asked the Board of Selectmen to prohibit parking on the east side of Chester Street from Nutting Hall to the school during the hours parents are delivering children to the school and again, when the parents are picking up their children as they are released from the school in the afternoon. We are hoping to alleviate the traffic congestion which occurs during these hours.

Concerns voiced by town residents centered around on-street parking and "Thru Trucking" on local roads. This Committee, in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen, is looking into possible solutions to these concerns.

The Highway Safety committee meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Chester Police Department. The public is encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Chester Highway Safety Committee

Chief Alfred Wagner, Police Department
Jon Beaulieu, State Representative
Clarence Ware, Road Agent
Robert Dolloff, School Board

Public Members
Col. Richardson
Hubert McLaren

Chief Stephen Tunberg, Fire Department
Charlotte Lister, Selectwoman
Cynthia J. Robinson, Planning Board

BentonGeorge Noyes
Robert Healey

Chester Police Department Report for Calendar Year Ending 1997

The Chester Police Department proudly provides a service to the Town of Chester. As the number of homes, miles of roadway and numbers of persons increase, so the call for services, some of which are listed.

Hang-up calls to 9-1-1 are an ongoing problem as each hang-up requires an Officer to respond.

Many homes do not have their house numbers displayed. This is making it more difficult for "ALL" Emergency Services to respond in a timely fashion. Please contact the Selectmen's Office if your number is missing.

The Chester Police Department is involved in "Community Policing". To this end we are trying to expand upon our capabilities to provide a service. In the coming months we expect to add defibrillators to the cruisers so as to add another level of health and safety.

I wish to "thank" all the members of the community for their support.

Sincerely,
Alfred J. Wagner, Chief of Police

Alexander Castora, Deputy Chief
Leonard Leclair, Sergeant
William Burke, Sergeant
Robert O'Connor, Patrolman

Kenneth McCarron, Patrolman
Vaughn McGillen, Patrolman
Heather Spinney, Patrolman
Tracey Boisvert, Patrolman

Vaughn M. McGillen, Secretary

Telephone:	9-1-1	Emergency
	887-3229	All Calls for Service
	887-2080	Unattended Business Line
	887-2090	Animal Control Answering Machine

Highlights of Calendar Year Ending December 1997

29	Burglary Reports	118	Motor Vehicle Complaints
43	Theft Reports	3	Unattended/Untimely Deaths
11	Motor Vehicle Theft Reports	90	Suspicious Person Complaints
14	Simple Assaults	201	Assist Other Police Depts.
1	Arson Report	9	O.H.R.V. Reports
2	Rape Reports	6	Illegal Dumping Reports
3	Fraud Reports	134	Alarm Activations
3	Stolen Property Report	143	Police Dept. Information
46	Criminal Mischief Reports	2	Littering Reports
8	Sex Offense Report	6	Liquor Offenses
6	Drug Offense Reports	97	Assist Fire/Rescue Calls
56	Domestic Reports	14	Criminal Trespass Reports
3	Driving While Intoxicated	75	Paperwork Services
2	Protective Custody	126	Animal Control Reports
12	Disorderly Conduct Reports	26	Harassment Reports
23	Missing Persons Reports	266	Aide to Public Situations
54	Motor Vehicle Accidents	157	House Security Check Reports
31	Pistol Permit Applications	4	Illegal Burns

Fire Department Report

This year has proved to be an eventful year for the Chester Fire Department. We had more structure fires than we usually have which brings to mind that the quicker that we receive notification, the less damage will result to the structure. Please make sure that any battery powered detector in your home has fresh batteries and that hard wired detectors are functional. Establish a test routine. If you leave your home unoccupied every day, consider a monitored alarm system. Check any extinguishers that you might have and make sure they are properly charged. If they are not, have them charged or replace them. Remember, we are all responsible for fire protection.

Fire prevention efforts continue with the "Learn not to burn" program. Members of the Chester Fire Department remain active with fire safety education at the pre-school level as well as the primary grades at the Chester Elementary School. As these children bring the fire safety message home, we are hopeful that the community will become a safer place. However, when an emergency does occur, the number to call is **911**.

Another way to ensure the best possible response time is to make sure that your street number is in-place and unobstructed. The reflective number that is provided by town is one that can be read in the dark and other times of poor visibility. Please keep this in mind before changing to other numbers.

We would like to thank Dean Leighton once again since we are using part of his gift to the Fire Department to purchase a late model pick-up truck to upgrade our forestry equipment. The 1993 Ford will be replacing the 1953 Dodge as Forestry 1. The members of the department have funds needed to complete the task and we have received help from others in the community as well. Putting a truck in service is a time consuming task but regarding to see everything coming together.

We continue to participate in the Haz/Mat District with several members of the department taking part in training provided by the district. Our membership in the district provides us with a valuable resource in providing assistance with any problem that might arise with hazardous materials. As most of you are aware, these material are frequently transported over our roads.

We have had a few new people join our ranks this year, but our invitation still stands. If you have any interest in joining our ranks, stop by the station on a Tuesday evening or a Sunday morning and find out what being a volunteer firefighter involves.

Respectfully submitted,
Chester Volunteer Fire Department

Summary of Calls 1997

EMS (Emergency Medical Services)

Medical	75
MVA (Motor Vehicle Accidents)	18

Fire

Structure (reported)	6	Lawn Mower	1
Chimney	4	Carbon Monoxide Detector	5
Trees/Wires Down	14	Propane Tank Leak	1
Transformer	1	False Alarms	23
Electrical/Furnace Problems	4	Service Call/Smoke Check	2
Brush	1	Lawn Furniture	1
Vehicle	2	**Beaver Creek	15

Mutual Aid

Candia	2
East Derry	2
Derry	2

Total Calls 179

Report of Town Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department and State Forest Ranger, contact you local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and the other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

There are ten Forest Rangers who work of the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Protection Bureau. State Forest Rangers are available to assist communities with forest fire suppression, prevention and training programs as well as the enforcement of forest fire and timber harvest laws. If you have any questions regarding forest fire or timber harvest laws, please call our office at 271-2217.

There are 2400 Forest Fire Wardens and Deputy Forest Fire Wardens throughout the state. Each town has a Forest Fire Warden and several Deputy Wardens who assist the Forest Rangers with forest fire suppression, prevention, and law enforcement. The 1997 fire season was a safe period for wildland firefighters with no major injuries reported. The drought conditions experienced during the early summer months was a significant factor resulting in the total number of fires reported during the season.

The State of New Hampshire operates 15 fire towers, 2 mobile patrols, and 3 contract aircraft patrols. This early detection and reports from citizens aid in quick response from local fire departments. This is a critical factor in controlling the size of wildland fires and keeping the loss of property and suppression costs as low as possible.

1997 FIRE STATISTICS (All Fires Reported thru December 23, 1997)

FIRES REPORTED BY COUNTY		CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED	
Belknap	58	Smoking	54
Carroll	96	Debris Burning	261
Cheshire	63	Campfire	99
Coos	29	Power Line	33
Grafton	51	Railroad	3
Hillsborough	145	Equipment Use	23
Merrimack	148	Lightning	14
Rockingham	54	Children	60
Strafford	630	HRV	0
Sullivan	19	Miscellaneous	130
		Incendiary	33
TOTAL FIRES	726	Fireworks	16
TOTAL ACRES	117.17		

John R. Dodge
Forest Ranger

Stephen Tunberg
Forest Fire Warden

Report of Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission has a wide range of services and resources available to help the dues-paying members deal with a variety of municipal issues. Technical assistance is provided by a professional staff whose expertise is, when necessary, supplemented by consultants who are selected for their specialized skills or services. Each year, with the approval of your appointed representatives, the Commission staff designs and carries out programs of area-wide significance that are mandated under New Hampshire and federal laws or regulations, as well as local or site-specific projects which would pertain more exclusively to your community.

Technical assistance is provided in a professional and timely manner by staff at the request of your Planning Board or Board of Selectmen. The Commission conducts planning studies and carries out projects that are of common interest and benefit to all member communities, keeps your officials apprised of changes in planning and land use regulation, and offers training workshops for Planning and Zoning Board members on an annual basis.

Services that were performed for the Town of Chester during the past year are as follows:

1. Co-sponsored the Municipal Law Lecture series. These meetings were attended by Chester officials.
2. Conducted traffic counts at eleven locations in the Town of Chester. Copies of the traffic counts were forwarded to the Planning Board.
3. Provided a video entitled "Community Growth Management" for the use of the Planning Board.
4. An overlay showing the Historic Sites in Chester was prepared and forwarded to the Chester Historical Society and the Board of Selectmen.
5. Provided technical assistance regarding the Town of Chester's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Chester's Representatives to the Commission are:

Albert W. Hamel

Andrew L. Hadik

Executive Committee Member: Albert W. Hamel, Vice-Chairman

Chester Conservation Commission

The Chester Conservation Commission is a seven-member board appointed by the Selectmen under the provisions of New Hampshire State law to oversee conservation-related matters in the town. The Conservation Commission is active in reviewing subdivision plans for their impact on rivers, ponds, surface waters and groundwater. The Commission is pro-active on preserving open space, educating the public on conservation issues, and generally acting for the community's behalf.

The Conservation Commission meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM in Town Hall, and public input is always encouraged. Watch for us in the future on Channel 51.

Spring Hill Farm Conservation Area: The Conservation Commission and the Spring Hill Farm Trustees are currently in negotiations with the New Hampshire Equine Humane Association (NHEHA) in the use of a portion of the farm for the rehabilitation of mistreated horses and the care of older horses. Currently the NHEHA has no headquarters to conduct business or property for boarding. The NHEHA presently conducts business at member homes and uses equine foster homes for boarding until permanent facilities are found. For the long-term use of the farm, the NHEHA proposes to use the existing farmhouse as its headquarters, hire a superintendent, maintain the pasture areas and utilize the hayfields. It is the desire of the Commission and Trustees to see that the negotiations result in the 400-acre farm being used towards the benefit of both the NHEHA and the Town of Chester. As most everyone knows, Miss Church donated her entire farm to the Town of Chester with only one stipulation, that it never be developed and remains as farmland ad infinitum for the benefit and enjoyment of the residents of Chester. Her generous donation of her farm has already resulted in thousands of dollars not being added to the tax bills as opposed to the almost guaranteed tax increases that would have resulted from even a small part of the farm being turned into a sub-development. The Conservation Commission has budgeted fifteen hundred dollars to help increase the yield from the hayfields and cornfields by the purchasing of fertilizer and seed.

Land Use Change Tax: At the last Town Meeting the voters established a Conservation Fund by setting aside up to a maximum of \$20,000 each year from the Land Use Change Tax revenues. The warrant article also allowed for the establishment of a Strategic Development Committee (SDC) to recommend and determine the best use of such funds to help control the growth rates and property tax rates of the town. Unfortunately, the State of New Hampshire regulations only allow revenues collected after April 1 following approval to be placed into the fund. Since the Town Meeting was held after April 1, 1997, only revenues generated

after April 1 of this year (1998) can be applied to the Conservation Fund. Anyone interested in obtaining a Conservation Easement on their property for tax purposes or for other permanent protection please contact the Office of Selectmen. If approved by the SDC, property owners will not have to pay for any of the costs associated with the placement of the easement.

Antioch College - Strategic Land Survey: The Conservation Commission has entered into an agreement with Antioch College to complete a "Strategic Land Assessment" in Chester as part of their Masters Degree Program. The Strategic Development Committee will utilize the results of this comprehensive study to prioritize strategic properties in town that would most benefit by protection with the Land Change Tax revenues. This agreement will result in an estimated 300 hours of free service to the town.

White Pines College - Service Learning Project: The "Service Learning" elective for students attending White Pines College require involvement in a community project. Presently, five students are participating in the project with the Conservation Commission. With photography being a major at the college, the project will focus on photographs of some of Chester's natural resources, unique features, etc. with accompanying text explaining the significance of each photograph. The photographs will be displayed at the Chester Public Library this spring.

UNH Community Environmental Outreach Program (CEOP): The Conservation Commission is currently working with the UNH-CEOP on a project to identify a wetlands in town and to investigate possible impacts from the surrounding watershed. A similar study by UNH-CEOP was completed on the North Pond Wetland Area a few years ago.

Environmental Compliance Officer: The Office of Selectmen, Planning Board, and Town Attorney have approved and the Selectmen have established an Environmental Compliance Officer position for the Town of Chester. The Environmental Compliance Officer will assist the Building Inspector with environmental issues and problems. Brad Wamsley has been appointed to the position. Anyone with an environmental compliance question can contact him.

Black Gum Swamps: The NH Department of Resources and Economic Development requested assistance from the Conservation Commission in identifying possible rare Black Gum Tree Swamps in two areas of Chester. The State's preliminary investigation through soil maps and aerial photography indicated possible occurrences of these swamps in Chester. Ground investigations by members of the Conservation Commission have confirmed the existence of two Black Gum Tree Swamps in Chester. The State has requested that the locations not be publicized due to possible vandalism. The State will be conducting in-depth surveys this spring or summer for possible inclusion of these rare swamps into the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory. Note: Recently, a 562 year-old black gum

tree was discovered in a southern New Hampshire peat bog making it the oldest known tree in New England..

Exeter River Watershed Project: The Exeter River officially begins its existence as a small stream where it passes under Route 102 in Chester. As the "source" of the river, Chester plays an important role in its quality. Members of the Conservation Commission are active in the current "Exeter River Watershed Project" and one member of the Commission serves on its oversight committee. One Hundred dollars has been budgeted as Chester's portion towards the management of the project.

1998-99 Proposed Budget:

- Dues including The NH Association of Conservation Commissions	= \$ 250.00
- Spring Hill Farm Conservation Area	= \$1,500.00
- Exeter River Watershed Project	= \$ 100.00
- Operating Budget	= \$ 150.00
TOTAL	= \$2,000.00

Respectfully submitted,
Chester Conservation Commission
Brad Wamsley, Chairperson
Greg Lowell, Recording Officer
Gladys Nicoll, Treasurer
Larry Benjamin
David Hardy
Maureen Lein
Camilla Lockwood, Planning Board Representative
Elizabeth Hayward, Alternate
Charlotte Lister, Selectperson Representative

Report of the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee

In August of 1995, The Exeter River was designated for protection under the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Act (RSA 483). Under the terms of the designation, the Commissioner of the Department of Environment Services, acting on recommendations from Select Boards, appointed residents from each of the communities along the river to serve as members of the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee. Chester's members are Albert Hamel and the undersigned.

Chester is home to the headwaters of the Exeter River then it flows to Sandown, back through Chester, then on through Raymond, Fremont, Danville, Brentwood, to the Great Falls at Exeter. There, the river becomes a tidal and is known as the Squamscott which flows into Great Bay.

The Exeter River is the chief water supply for the Town of Exeter. Its watershed (approximately 125 square miles) is a recharge area for wells all along its entire 32 mile length.

The task of the Local Advisory Committee is to develop and oversee a management plan for the river corridor. This will assure protection and enhancement of water quality, wildlife, scenic and recreation uses, and preservation of historic and cultural values.

A questionnaire mailed to all (750+) landowners along the river resulted in a 30% response which reflected concern for these values.

The Committee has been fortunate to work as a partner in the Exeter River Watershed Project which is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency. Work is in progress by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, the University of New Hampshire, and the Rockingham Planning Commission, with strong support from New Hampshire Fish and Game, the Office of State Planning, the Department of Environmental Services and the Rockingham Conservation District, bringing together the technology and information to create a sound plan for the river's resources in the future.

Audubon has conducted several intensive studies of wetlands along the river corridor and has noted locations of unusual or rare wildlife and plant species.

Over the past year a group of UNH students completed an "Exeter River Buffer Analysis" which studied the conditions along a five mile stretch of the river in Fremont. This included wildlife habitat, possible sources of pollution, topography and plant life, and created a baseline for future study. This year the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture will be conducting a similar study along a five mile section of the river in Chester.

The University of New Hampshire has prepared a set of Geographic Information System (GIS) maps of the river corridor, showing the surface water,

soil types and other important data which can help the Committee offer protection techniques for our sensitive river areas.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. If you would like to visit and see what is happening with "your river", we meet at 7:00 PM on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the County Commissioners' Office at the county complex in Brentwood. For more information, contact Camilla Lockwood at 887-3271.

Respectfully submitted,
Camilla C. Lockwood, Vice Chair
Exeter River Local Advisory Committee

The Chester Town Fair

With the conclusion of the 7th annual Chester Town Fair and the celebration of the town's 275th anniversary, the fair coordinators Ellen Boda and Candy Menard have stepped down.

The committee was started in 1991 on the premise of giving the organizations in town an opportunity to gather for the purpose of fund raising and providing an occasion for bringing neighbors together.

The town's generous contribution of \$3500.00 combined with the committee's active fund raising, including the commemorative booklet, resulted in an operating budget of \$9166.00. This provided a day packed with fun ranging from the traditional firs man's breakfast and old fashion parade to games, contests, entertainment and ending with a spectacular fireworks display.

Thank you to all that contributed to the success of the Chester Town Fair

Ellen and Candy

Chester Recreation Commission Report

The all-volunteer Recreation Commission for the Town of Chester, which oversees the Recreation & Parks budget, serves the recreational needs of the town by maintaining and improving the town's primary recreational area - the French and Nichols fields, coordinating recreational agreements with the Town of Derry and the Derry Soccer Club which allow Chester children to participate in basketball and soccer activities, sponsoring its own softball, basketball, and volleyball programs, and running a 6-week Summer Program for over 100 Chester children.

1997 Report:

Summer Program: For the sixth summer in a row, we offered a six-week Summer Program to Chester children. Over 100 children enjoyed activities at the town ballfields each morning from 9:00AM - 12:00N, and went on weekly field trips. This program is repeated every summer. There is both a signup fee and an additional fee for the field trips. Sign-up sheets are distributed at the Chester school or you may contact this commission. No child will be turned away from any of these programs for financial reasons. If the fee is a hardship, please speak privately to one of the Recreation Commission members.

Facilities Improvement: There were no major improvements to the ballfield facilities during 1997. The shed was repainted and repairs due to vandalism were made.

Basketball Program: The commission offers both instructional and competitive basketball programs, in addition to the basketball programs afforded by the Derry Recreation Dept. basketball. Programs for boys and girls are available. Contact this commission for information.

Derry-Chester Cooperation: Chester children are able to participate in the Town of Derry's basketball program and the Derry Soccer Club's programs through a cooperative arrangement whereby Chester provides its facilities (the school gym for basketball, the soccer field for soccer) for use by these programs. The Rec. Commission pays for use of the gym on Saturday mornings for Derry Rec. basketball and allows the Derry Soccer Club to use the town fields. All Chester children ages 5-18 are welcome to participate in these programs. Sign-up notices appear regularly in the Derry News.

1998 Plans/Comments:

Budget: The 1998 budget has only a slight increase over last year's budget. The submitted budget contains money for electricity, phone, portable toilets, garbage

removal, and normal everyday supplies. There is a small amount of money for facilities improvement. The money for salaries and wages goes to the Summer Program head counselor (who oversees the entire program) and the local teenagers who work at the Summer Program. (The teens are paid \$5.00 to \$6.00 per hour, depending on how long they've been working for us.) The Summer Program does require fees from participants that help defray our budget. Last year approximately \$2000 was returned to the town General Fund and a similar sum is expected this year.

Projects: There are no major projects planned for 1998, although we still need to install gates on the two entrances to the fields to prevent vehicles from driving over the playing surfaces. Aside from emergency and maintenance vehicles, there should be no vehicles on the field.

Field Rules and Regulations: Since this report is our primary means of communicating with the town, we repeat here every year the rules governing usage of the town fields (as spelled out in the Town Master Plan). Priorities for field usage are set as follows (1 is highest priority): (1) Chester School athletic events, (2) Chester Baseball Program or Recreation Commission-sanctioned activities, (3) All other activities (scheduled or unscheduled). Scheduling of the fields for other events, such as church picnics, field days, soccer leagues, or other school usage must be made through the Rec. Commission by contacting Town Hall. Reminder: There are no horses or motorized vehicles allowed on the field. (And you might police your dogs a bit as well.)

As always, we continue to look to the town for guidance and suggestions.

Chester Recreation Commission Members

Greg Lowell

Linda Royce

Debbie Burke

Bob Henderson

Charlie Needham

In Appreciation

When Joe Vaal and his wife decided to leave our town for the warmth of Arizona last fall, the Town of Chester lost one of its best citizens. Well-known for his work with the local Boy Scouts, Joe also put in many hours of free labor for the town, using his carpentry skills to build the ballfield dugouts and maintain the shed. Whenever an offer of payment for time or materials was made, Joe would always turn it down, saying "It's for the kids." Good luck in retirement, Joe and Julia, and thank you.

Chester Recreation Commission

Report of the Recycling/Solid Waste Committee

We have been very busy during the past year working with the Selectmen, Town engineers and contractors on the construction of our new transfer station and closure of our landfill, both of which are now substantially complete. Except for a few minor details, the only remaining work to be done for the transfer station is the application of the final wearing coat of paving on the access road and parking areas. The landfill closure is also complete, except for some re-seeding of the grass cover. However, groundwater, gas, and settlement monitoring will continue as long as DES deems it necessary. Both projects went very well, with only a few minor bumps in the road, and were completed on schedule and \$45,000 under budget. Thanks to the efforts of Bonnie and Lloyd Healy and many others, and the patience and cooperation of our residents, the transition to our new transfer station went very smoothly.

The Solid Waste Committee also took advantage of grants to purchase new equipment for the transfer station. The first was a DES grant to purchase a new \$2,500 state-of-the-art waste oil recycling container with built-in spill containment at no cost to the Town. Many thanks to J.R. Stephens who worked to make this happen, and who, at the request of the DES, spoke on behalf of the Town about the grant and our program at a recent seminar. The second was a grant from New Hampshire The Beautiful which paid for half of the cost of our glass recycling roll-off container.

This spring or early summer we plan to build, using volunteers and contributions, a "swap shop" for those things that you think someone else might be able to use and you don't want to just throw away. Anyone wishing to contribute labor, lumber, doors, windows, shingles or nails, please contact the Recycling/Solid Waste Committee.

We continue to strive to increase our recycling. We recycled 302 tons in the past year that would otherwise have gone into the waste stream, for a savings to the Town of approximately \$12,000. The State's goal for New Hampshire towns is to recycle 40% of their waste streams by the year 2000. Chester's rate of recycling is currently at 31%, which is well above the national average of 21.4%. This is an accomplishment we can all be proud of. However, there is always room for improvement. Please help us to meet the State's goal.

Due to the success of last year's "summer hours," the Selectmen are budgeting for this again. In addition to our regular Saturday hours, the transfer station will be open Wednesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., from May 20 through September 30.

Chester is hosting this year's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day this fall, probably the last Saturday in September. We are a member of a group of

towns who agree to take turns hosting the event, and it's our turn. Our new transfer station will make a great site for this event. Please note that because of this, the transfer station will not be available for normal use that Saturday. We plan to be open at some other time that week to make up for it. Please watch your local papers, signs, cable tv, and flyers for more information.

As always, if you have any ideas or are interested in getting involved, we would like to hear from you.

Committee Members:

Anne Pardo, Chair and Secretary

Paula Potter, Vice Chair

Charles Myette

J.R. Stephens

Lloyd Healy

Bonnie Healy

Andrew Hadik, Selectman Liaison

CTV-51 Year in Review

Chester's CTV-51 has had a successful year due to the dedication of it's volunteers. Time is valuable to all of us and we are fortunate to have people willing to give their time for the success of the station.

Programming has included various video tapes lent to the station by residents who have shared their vacations, knowledge, and interesting events, as well as White Pines College students producing programs under the direction of R.D. Tilroe and numerous programs produced by the member volunteers at CTV-51.

Highlights that brought many positive reactions from residents were a new cooking show with local resident Hilary Hall as hostess and chef. Santa's ride on Christmas Eve once again was telecast with the assistance of the Fire & Police Departments. The Chester School building proposal meetings were taped and broadcast allowing all residents an opportunity to be informed.

We accomplished airing Selectmen's Meetings **LIVE** from Town Hall, and the annual Town Meeting will again be telecast **LIVE** for the town's viewing and voting participation....as well as the annual School Meeting. Several important Planning Board meetings were taped and aired almost immediately, to inform the citizens of Chester. **LIVE** telecasting of the Planning Board and other local boards and committee meetings is scheduled to begin early in 1998. A direct line between CTV-51 studios and White Pines College media center has been installed allowing live programming by White Pines College students.

We have worked to product a quality product while saving the town money whenever possible with the purchase of used equipment and selective spending. This upcoming year we will continue our present projects and hope to update our aging computer to increase the quality and quantity of programming.

CTV-51 is an opportunity for all Chester's citizens to share information, entertainment, and to learn. Our volunteers range from professional broadcast and electronic specialists, to generous people willing to give some time and learn a new skill.

CTV-51 Program Committee

Dolloff Farm Committee Report

The disappearance of prime agricultural land has been the downside of the rapid economic growth of southern New Hampshire. The Town of Chester was once home to a number of dairy farms, but as both the cost of doing business and the value of land increased, farms and their large areas of open space disappeared one by one until there is today only one working dairy farm in town - the Dolloff Farm. Owned jointly by Arthur and Stubby Dolloff, the farm has operated for 40 years and covers 98 acres of field and woodland. So far, the Dolloffs have been able to resist several attractive offers made for their land by real-estate developers. But the current reality of dairy farming with the decreasing price of milk and the increasing cost of doing business has put them under great pressure to sell off the farm for house lots.

The Dolloffs, however, have deep roots in the community and, wishing to stay in farming, hope that they can take advantage of a Federal program called the **Farmland Protection Program**. The program will contribute up to 50% of an appraised cost of the farmland to enable the town to secure the "development rights" to the farm. These development rights, in the form of a permanent conservation easement, will ensure that the land will forever remain undeveloped, regardless of who owns the farm.

A required independent appraisal completed this spring (paid for by the Dolloffs) set the value of the land for the purpose of the Federal program at \$360,000, which is **much less** than the Dolloffs could receive if they sold the land privately. The Town of Chester will have to approve \$180,000 at Town Meeting in order for the Dolloffs to submit their application for the Federal protection program. This program is in the last year of its initial 3-year funding. This year there is \$17 million available for disbursement nationwide, but there will be no more after this year unless Congress extends the program. The chances of the Dolloff Farm receiving funding from the Federal government is good, since southern New Hampshire is rated by the government as one area that is in great jeopardy of losing farmland.

The land in question is a 79.84 acre tract at the corner of Town Farm Road and Webster Lane and 11 acres on Halls Village Road. The two houses, barn, and outbuildings are not included.

There are advantages to the taxpayers of Chester beyond the preservation of farmland. The 17 potential house lots on the Dolloff land will likely cost the town more money than they generate in taxes. A recent study of four new subdivisions in Chester showed an average of 1.5 children per household, which at the 1997 cost of about \$5500 per child results in a per household school cost of \$8250, more than the average house in the four subdivisions pays in property

taxes. Assuming similar type development on the Dolloff land, the town will save money annually by leaving the land undeveloped, and in a short time will recover the \$180,000 price tag.

If the town chooses to purchase the development rights with town money and Federal funds, the land will remain undeveloped and the Dolloffs, their heirs, or whoever owns the land will continue to pay property taxes on it. There will be no reduction in taxes on the land as a result of the town owning development rights. The process of acquiring the development rights proceeds as follows:

1. The voters of the Town of Chester vote on acquiring the development rights at a cost of \$180,000 to the town. (The Selectmen have recommended that this cost not be bonded because of the increased cost a bond would incur, and because a bond would add hardship to taxpayers in the following years when the school and landfill bond costs will be at their highest.)
2. If approved by the town voters, application for the other \$180,000 is made to the Federal government for the matching funds.
3. Three to four months later, the Government allocates a share of money from its nationwide pool of \$17 million to a New Hampshire State Selection Committee, who will divide up the funds between state applicants (there are currently two NH applicants this year who have had funds approved at their town meetings - the Dolloff Farm will make it three).
4. Either the full amount of \$180,000 or a portion of that amount is allocated to the Dolloff Farm by the State Committee. If fully funded, the town acquires the development rights to the full 90.84 acres. If less than fully funded, the town and the Dolloffs will negotiate the development rights for a proportional share of the 90.84 acres.

The Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and this committee hope that the citizens of Chester will see the benefits of this proposal and view it as a way to save taxes, preserve shrinking open space, and control the rampant growth that has afflicted many neighboring towns. Thank you.

Dolloff Farm Committee
Greg Lowell
Dave Hardy
Charlotte Lister
Cam Lockwood
Brad Wamsley

The Educational Trust for Chester

The mission of the trust is to provide enrichment activities and raise community awareness for the need to promote quality public education. It is five years old this spring. It meets monthly and has seven trustees. We are looking to develop committees and welcome anyone interested in our mission to contact us.

With continued fund raising, community and corporate support we have provided enrichment programs for the children of Chester. We continue to support the journalism elective for 6th and 7th graders enrolled in the elementary school. This gives those students writing experiences and brings to Trust members a Literary Digest three times a year. In the fall, the Trust provided eight grade students a day at the Browne Center located on the UNH campus. The purpose of this day was to provide experiences which would prepare our graduates for their transition into Pinkerton Academy. This transition can be daunting as the class of 50+ students gets absorbed into a class of 700+ students. This spring with corporate support from Wire Belt of America and a collaboration with the PTA, a three day artist in residence program was offered to the entire elementary school population. This was an overwhelming success for teachers, parents and students. It is only with ongoing community participation that these programs can be offered.

We appreciate all the community support we have received. We are a non profit and all contributions are tax deductible. We would like to increase our membership and corporate funding. Please contact us should anyone be interested learning more about the Educational Trust.

The Trustees,
Christine Branley
Joanne Greer
Sue Folsom
Janet Gresak
Pat McLean
Lorna Hazelton
Steph Landau

EMERGENCY SERVICES

FIRE: Emergency # - 911 887-3878 Non-Emergency (Fire House)
Permits required for all open fires. Arrangements for permits may be obtained
by calling:

Bruce McLaughlin Stephen Tunberg Scott St. Clair
887-4626 887-5790 887-4556
Steven Childs Arthur Dolloff
887-4558 887-3996

MEDICAL

Derry Area Ambulance Service: 911

Parkland Medical Center: 432-1500

Poison Center, Mary Hitchcock Hospital, Hanover, NH: 643-4000

Rockingham Visiting Nurse Association: 432-7776

TOWN FACILITIES

Disposal Area, Route 102

Saturdays, 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

LIBRARY

887-3404

Monday, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Thursday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (During school sessions)

Closed Saturdays in July & August

CHURCH SERVICES

Chester Congregational Baptist Church

4 Chester Street

Sunday 11:00 a.m. - Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

St. Jerome's Mission

Chester Congregational Baptist Church

Lordís Day Mass, Saturday 5:45 p.m.

Fellowship Bible Church

Rod and Gun Club Road

Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m.

MEETINGS/OFFICE HOURS

(Town Hall Closed When School is Canceled Due to Snow

and for State of New Hampshire Holidays)

Selectmen Meetings: Monday Night (As Posted) - 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall

Please call 887-4979 for an appt., Office open Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Town Clerk & Tax Collector - Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

No new registrations after 12:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri. or after 8:15 p.m. Mon. night

Monday evening: 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. except July and August 1st and last,

Monday nights only. - Phone 887-3636

Fire Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month; Firehouse

Board of Adjustment - 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Office Hours: Monday 10:00 a.m. - 12 Noon. Phone 887-5629

Planning Board - 1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Office Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs.- 8:30 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. Phone 887-5629

Building Inspector/Zoning Office - Monday and Wednesday

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon. Office behind Post Office

Field Inspections: Monday and Wednesday afternoons: 887-5552

Office of the Selectmen
Chester, NH 03036

Special Collect. Dept.
The University Library
18 Library Way
Durham, NH 03824-3952

1

